



New Faculty

2024-2025

Welcome from the Provost

To our new faculty,

It is my honor to welcome you to Seton Hall University! During the past year, I have had the privilege of participating in the process of hiring each one of you, and from that I know what an incredibly talented group you are. Whether you are going to be primarily located in South Orange, Nutley/Clifton, or Newark, I am thrilled to have you as a part of our Seton Hall family.

Seton Hall's greatest strength has always been its people. It has been my pleasure to be able to learn more about the wonderful achievements of our entire faculty. I am excited that each of you will bring fresh ideas and research and further enrich our conversations and engage our students in many new ways. We will all benefit greatly from your contributions.

As part of the University's commitment to instruction and research, we have made substantial investments in hiring new faculty members in recent years, despite the significant challenges facing higher education coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are proud to have added many new faculty members this year and we remain committed to investing in academics, not only through faculty hires, but additionally through initiatives that support curriculum development, interdisciplinary scholarship, new strategic planning, and enriching experiences that align with our mission. Our collective goals remain working together to educate and mentor our students, teaching them to become servant leaders, lifelong learners, and the creative, ethical, competent professionals and global citizens of tomorrow.

I am also happy to report that our President Monsignor Joseph Reilly, our Board of Trustees and Board of Regents, and our Executive Cabinet have all restated their continued commitment to reinvest in the Academy, as set forth in Harvest Our Treasures, our strategic plan. Investing in excellence in the Academy is the only way for us to ensure the continued vibrancy of our beloved University.

Finally, allow me to simply thank you for coming to Seton Hall. I know that all of you had other institutions you could have joined. Your choice to come here is a welcome reaffirmation of our mutual commitment to Seton Hall's Mission. I have enjoyed meeting many of you these past few weeks and I look forward to getting to know all of you over the coming months.

Sincerely,
Katia Passerini
Provost and Senior Executive Vice President



Deans



John Buschman, D.L.S.
Dean, University Libraries



Bryan Crable, Ph.D.
*Founding Dean, College of
 Human Development, Culture
 & Media*



Vikram, Dayalu, Ph.D.
*Interim Dean, School of
 Health & Medical Sciences*



Nancy Enright, Ph.D.
Director, University Core



Jonathan Farina, Ph.D.
*Interim Dean, College of Arts
 & Sciences*



**Rev. Msgr. Gerard H.
 McCarren, S.T.D.**
*Rector/Dean, Immaculate Conception
 Seminary / School of Theology*



Mary Kate Naatus, Ph.D.
*Dean, Continuing Education
 & Professional Studies*



Courtney Smith, Ph.D.
*Dean, School of Diplomacy
 & International Relations*



**Kristi Stinson, Ph.D., RN,
 APN-BC**
Interim Dean, College of Nursing



Joyce Strawser, Ph.D.
*Dean, Stillman School of
 Business*



Ronald Weich, J.D.
Dean, School of Law

The College of Arts and Sciences



**Sivan
Albagli-Kim, Ph.D.**

*Department of Mathematics
and Computer Science*

Sivan Albagli-Kim earned her PhD from the Technion-Institute of Technology in 2016. She joins the Mathematics and Computer Science department. Her research focuses on developing algorithms for Recommendation Systems using Knowledge Graph representation and Artificial Intelligence techniques, especially in the Healthcare domain. She is also interested in Natural Language Processing and Semantic Technologies. She is passionate about teaching and has considerable experience in covering a range of computer science topics.



Amanda Bergold, Ph.D.

Department of Psychology

Amanda Bergold holds a PhD in Psychology and Law and Basic and Applied Social Psychology from John Jay College, CUNY. Before joining Seton Hall she was an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Marist College, a Visiting Professor at Williams College, and a fellow at the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Her research focuses on the intersection of psychology and the law, particularly addressing legal issues related to wrongful convictions and racial bias in the justice system. Her current research projects use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to assist in lineup construction using facial recognition technology and AI faces.



Jason Bundy, Ph.D.

Department of Biological Sciences

Dr. Bundy is an evolutionary biologist serving as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences. Dr. Bundy was previously a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Minnesota, after completing a dual-PhD program at Michigan State University. Dr. Bundy also holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from Penn State. Dr. Bundy's research focuses on evolution experiments with artificial life. Dr. Bundy truly comes from a Seton Hall family. His father, who worked here for nearly two decades, was the Director of the Pre-Med/Pre-Dent program and his sister, Melody, is a Seton Hall alumnus. Dr. Bundy grew up attending and working at Seton Hall's summer basketball camps and remains a big supporter of Seton Hall athletics.



**Subasinghe
Nissanga Anne
Ashini Ranmali Dias,
MBBS, Ph.D.**

Department of Biological Sciences

Ashini Dias graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree from Nepal and spent years providing healthcare to underprivileged women in a rural area of Sri Lanka. She relocated to the US to grow as an educator and to learn the latest molecular research techniques and other new therapeutic modalities to improve in-vitro fertilization outcome in a cost-effective manner. Her passion for teaching and research led her to complete her MS in Microbiology and Ph.D. in Molecular Bioscience at Seton Hall. Dr. Dias has taught wide array of biology courses at multiple higher education institutions with the vast experience she gained as a Seton Hall alumna. Her goal is to inspire her students to be lifelong learners and inquirers.



Tanasha Driver, M.S.W.

Department of Social Work

Tanasha Driver is elated to join the Seton Hall Family - for a second time. She graduated with her BA in Psychology in 2014, and proceeded to attain her Masters of Social Work. She is currently a Licensed Clinical Social Worker here in the state of New Jersey. She has a great deal of experience within Crisis Intervention, and has a special place in her heart for today's youth and military personnel. Her passion runs deep for helping and aiding individual clients and families attain authentic wellness within their lives. She aspires to help today's emerging Social Workers attain the same zeal for bettering the world we live in one client at a time.



Siyao Gu, Ph.D.

*Department of Mathematics
and Computer Science*

Dr. Siyao Gu received his PhD from the University of TX - San Antonio in 2022. With over 8 years of industry experience, his expertise extends to disciplines including electrical engineering, renewable energy, nuclear technology, semiconductors, military contracting, artificial intelligence, robotics, and medicine.

Dr. Gu has collaborated with Argonne National Laboratory, NREL, SLAC, and CERN. His research includes smart grid innovation, sensor networks for nuclear security, and X-ray imaging using AI and machine learning. His most recent work involves the application of LLMs for optimizing organizational sustainability.

His teaching includes computer architecture and database. He hopes to kindle his love for STEM in future generations.



**Isabel Guzzardo
Tamargo, Ph.D.**

Department of English

Isabel Guzzardo

Tamargo is an Assistant Professor of Literature of the Americas in the English Department at Seton Hall University. She holds a PhD from the English Department at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, where she specialized in Caribbean literature. Much of her work explores representations of maroons in contemporary queer Jamaican, Puerto Rican, and Dominican literature. She has published peer-reviewed articles and reviews in *The Avery Review*, *Small Axe*, *80 Grados*, *Confluencia*, *The University of the West Indies' Social and Economic Studies*, and others. She is also a principal collaborator of the Puerto Rico Syllabus, a digital resource to understand Puerto Rico's debt crisis, and an editor for *The Puerto Rico Review*.



Sylvia Hanna, M.D.

Department of Biological Sciences

Sylvia Hanna joins the Department of Biology as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Dr Hanna is a physician having graduated from SUNY Downstate Medical Center with a Doctor of Medicine degree. She practiced clinical OB/GYN until she went to work in the pharmaceutical industry for almost two decades. Dr. Hanna has a passion for teaching and taught Anatomy & Physiology as an adjunct previously at Seton Hall University.

In her spare time, she enjoys traveling.



**Megan
Kane, Ph.D.**

Department of English

Megan Kane recently completed her PhD in English at Temple University, and she joins the English Department as a full-time faculty member in the First-Year Writing Program. Her research area is computational rhetoric, and her dissertation proposed methods of natural language processing to support writing program assessment. In her spare time, Megan enjoys playing the violin and exploring restaurants and hiking trails in the Greater Philadelphia area.



**Kathleen
Kidder, Ph.D.**

*Department of Languages,
Literatures and Cultures*

After earning a PhD in Classics at the University of Cincinnati (2018), Kathleen Kidder has taught at the College of William and Mary, University of Houston, and Wayne State University. Her research specialization is Hellenistic poetry, with additional interests in gender studies, visual culture, and epistemology. Along with articles, Dr. Kidder has published a monograph entitled *Criteria of Truth: Representations of Truth and Falsehood in Hellenistic Poetry* (2023). Her new project examines spatial imagery in the "Alexandra" of Lycophron.



**Adam M.
Kuczynski, Ph.D., J.D.**

Department of Social Work

Dr. Kuczynski joins Seton Hall as an Assistant Professor after serving as Villanova University's MPA Director. He is excited to join the SHU community.

His research interests include decision-making, law, and the virtualization of public administration. His experience includes serving as an attorney; editor; nonprofit communication director; communications associate within the Executive Office of the President; and an elected official. He also holds MBA, MPA, and MA (Comm) degrees.

He serves on the Board for NECoPA; ICMA's Digital Strategies and Graduate Education committees; and the Board of ASPA's Keystone Chapter; as well as various committees within the New Jersey State Bar Association; and offers pro-bono services to disabled veterans.



Jesse Madnick, Ph.D.

*Department of Mathematics
and Computer Science*

Jesse Madnick is joining the university as an assistant professor of mathematics. He completed his Ph.D. at Stanford University in 2018, after which he held postdoctoral fellowships at McMaster University, National Taiwan University, and the University of Oregon.

Dr. Madnick's research is in geometric analysis, with a focus on minimal surface theory and calibrated geometry. He spends a lot of time thinking about curvature and surface area, especially in 7-dimensional and 8-dimensional spaces.

Outside of mathematics, he enjoys martial arts, swimming, and music.



**Bradley Taylor
Martin, Ph.D.**

*Department of
Biological Sciences*

Bradley Martin obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from the University of Texas at Tyler, and his Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas. His research focuses on exploring the intricate workings of life by combining genomics, data science, and computational biology. He develops innovative software tools that help deepen our understanding of conservation, evolution, and ecology. His work aims to support the scientific community in studying and preserving the natural world, particularly as we face rapid environmental changes and habitat loss.



Peter Morse, Ph.D.

Department of Physics

Peter Morse is excited to join the Physics department as an Assistant Professor. After receiving an undergraduate degree at the University of Washington and a PhD from the University of Oregon, he worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Syracuse, Duke, and Princeton. His postdocs were part of large collaborations, which informed his view that science is at its best when it draws from a diverse network of people. Peter's work is an equal mixture of theory and simulations which focus on glass, active matter, and novel materials where he studies how complex liquids become rigid and how they can be used to understand memory formation. His work is informed by the connection of these problems to biology, computer science, and pure mathematics.



Marius Pelmus, Ph.D.

*Department of
Chemistry and Biochemistry*

Marius Pelmus is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department, and an alumnus of SHU who graduated in 2020. After working in the pharmaceutical industry, he rejoined SHU in 2023 as a Research Associate working in collaboration with three faculty members on a research grant. Dr. Pelmus's research interests are in the fields of material chemistry, catalysis, spectroscopic characterization, and photochemistry. Enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge, Dr. Pelmus has trained and supervised several students in research activity for honors theses.



Gabrielle Rossi, Ph.D.

Department of Social Work

Dr. Gabrielle Rossi joins the Department of Social Work and Public Administration at Seton Hall from Rutgers University, where the chancellor just honored her work in the Camden community. Dr. Rossi's blended background of educational and practical experience uniquely poised her to start Girls in Gear in 2021. She has 12+ years of experience leading youth development organizations that use recreation as a platform for life lessons. As the executive director of Girls in Gear, Dr. Rossi has the pleasure of seeing girls take what they learn on their bikes and apply it to their lives with verve, tenacity, and pluck. Her research focuses on how biking makes you a better person.



Nesrin Sahin, Ph.D.

Department of Psychology

Dr. Hisli Sahin joins the SHU academic family as a visiting professor in Psychology. She has been teaching various psychology courses at Fairleigh Dickinson University as an adjunct professor since 2017. She taught undergraduate and graduate level psychology courses in Turkey for the last 30+ years until she moved to U.S. In the meantime, she was also a researcher, investigating topics such as stress, attachment, depression, anxiety, anger, and post-traumatic stress, and has been instrumental in the adaptation and development of several psychological self-report measures in Turkey. She has also served as the president of the Turkish Psychological Association for four years and worked as a clinical psychology practitioner. She currently holds a NJ license to practice psychology. Dr. Sahin's main area of concentration at the present is Interpersonal Neurobiology.



Courtney Sender, M.F.A.

Department of English

Courtney Sender is new fiction faculty in the English department. Her debut book of short stories, *In Other Lifetimes All I've Lost Comes Back to Me* (WVU Press 2023), was called "fierce" by Alice McDermott and Danielle Evans, "miraculous" by Ann Patchett, and "a stunner" by Deesha Philyaw. Her stories have appeared in *Ploughshares*, *Glimmer Train*, *American Short Fiction*, and many others.

Courtney has written for *The New York Times'* Modern Love and *The Atlantic*, and she is staff writer for the iHeartMedia podcast "Noble Blood."

Courtney holds an MFA in Fiction from the Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars, an MTS with a focus on Holocaust theology & literature from Harvard Divinity School, and a B.A. in English from Yale. She lives in Philadelphia.



**Axel Mark
Oaks Takacs, Th.D.**

Department of Religion

Axel is a Catholic comparative theologian, interreligious studies scholar, and scholar of Islamic intellectual traditions, especially the classical and post-classical Sufi-Philosophical, poetic, and theological aesthetic traditions in Arabic and Persian. His scholarship reads Islamic sources for insights into historical and systematic issues of the Catholic tradition.

He works on theo-poetics, the imagination, the social imaginary, theological aesthetics, and the thought of Catholic theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar. Concerns of Islamophobia, racism, and white supremacy inform his research in the field of interreligious studies and Muslim-Christian relations.

He is the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Interreligious Studies*.



**Aleksy
Tarasenko-Struc, Ph.D.**

Department of Philosophy

Aleksy Tarasenko-Struc joins Seton Hall University as an assistant professor of philosophy with a secondary appointment in the School of Health and Medical Sciences. He is also director of SHU's Medical Humanities Program. He completed a PhD in philosophy at Harvard University, where his work was supported by the Edmond J. and Lily Safra Center for Ethics. Most recently, he held a clinical ethics fellowship at the Alden March Bioethics Institute at Albany Medical College. His research lies in ethics (particularly bioethics), social philosophy, and their intersection. His work concerns the dehumanizing aspects of wrongful clinical practices, as well as the scope of justified paternalism in medicine and the nature of decisional capacity.



Cynthia-Lee Williams, Ph.D.

*Department of Sociology, Anthropology,
and Criminal Justice*

Cynthia-Lee Williams is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Seton Hall University. Dr. Williams earned a M.Phil. and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from CUNY, the Graduate Center. She has also earned a M.A. in Criminology from St. John's University and a B.A. in Art History from Ithaca College. Her areas of interest include the following: policing in urban communities; reentry; and police oversight agencies. Dr. Williams published several articles that cover policing in urban communities and jail violence. Prior to enrolling in the CUNY doctoral program, Dr. Williams worked as an investigator for the New York City government. She also held faculty positions at Dominican University and William Paterson University.

Stillman School of Business



Enrico Forti, Ph.D.

Department of Management

Enrico Forti's research program lies at the intersection of strategy and organizational theory, using econometrics and computational methods to study how strategy and organization interact to influence performance. His work has been published in top academic journals, such as *Organization Science*, *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*, *Journal of Product Innovation Management*, and *Research Policy*.

Enrico has done research and taught courses at multiple leading institutions in the US, UK, EU, and China, including Columbia Business School, the UCL School of Management at University College London, the University of Bologna, and Peking University. He is an award-winning instructor and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in the area of strategy.



David Joseph Keating, Ph.D.

Department of Management

David Joseph Keating received his bachelor's degree in Entrepreneurship with a minor in Marketing at UIC. Following this, David worked in restaurant management and small business consulting. In 2012, he earned an MBA with concentrations in Management & Marketing at the UIC. David then worked at Walgreens Corporate in Internet marketing. In 2016, he founded the restaurant, Bridges & Bourbon, in Pittsburgh, PA. David's professional experiences motivated his pursuit of a research and teaching career, and in 2024, he completed his PhD in Management at Ole Miss. David prides himself on using his academic and professional experiences in research and teaching that is interesting to students, scholars and practitioners.



Katri Nousiainen, Ph.D.

Department of Economics and Legal Studies

Professor Nousiainen is a lawyer and professional in legal and economics education. Before joining the Stillman School of Business she was a Teaching Faculty in the Management Program at Harvard University and held a Resident Research Fellow position at Harvard Law School in the Program on Negotiation (PON) and in the Center on the Legal Profession (CLP). She was also affiliated with the University California Berkeley Law, Center for Law and Technology (BCLT) and with the Aix-Marseille School of Economics (France).

Nousiainen holds a PhD in Economic Sciences and Commercial Law (Hanken School of Economics); European Master in Law and Economics (EMLE) LL.M (Erasmus University Rotterdam), a Master Universitario di primo livello (University of Bologna), a Master d'Analyse Economique du Droit et des Institutions (Université Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseille III), and a B.A. in Law (International University Audentes, TUT, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven).



Carolyn Previti, Ph.D.

Department of Accounting and Taxation

Carolyn Previti completed her PhD at Drexel University, focusing on tax and financial accounting research. She is excited to join the faculty of the Stillman School of Business.

Prior to her PhD studies, Dr. Previti worked at PwC in Philadelphia. During her time in practice, she worked on both tax compliance and audits of tax provisions. Dr. Previti maintains an active CPA license.



Muhammed Yönaç, Ph.D.

Department of Finance

Muhammed Yönaç joins Seton Hall from the University of Bristol, UK, where he has been working as an Assistant Professor of Finance for the last two years. He completed his Ph.D. in Finance in 2022 at Baruch College of the City University of New York. He also holds a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Rochester, and an M.S. and B.S. in Physics from Bilkent University. His research interests are in applications of machine learning in finance, asset pricing, behavioral finance, and climate finance.

College of Human Development, Culture and Media



**David I.
Backer, Ph.D.**

*Department of
Education Leadership,
Management and Policy*

David I. Backer joins the Department of Educational Leadership, Management, and Policy as an associate professor. After teaching high school for five years, Dr. Backer completed his doctoral work at Teachers College, Columbia University in Philosophy and Education. His research focuses on critical theory, ideology, and school finance. Backer has published research in *Harvard Educational Review*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Journal of Educational Human Resources*, *Journal of Educational Administration and History*, *Educational Theory*, *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, *Critical Education*, and elsewhere. His forthcoming book *As Public as Possible: Radical Finance for America's Schools* will be published next year with The New Press.



David Berman, Ph.D.

*Department of Communication,
Media and Arts*

David Elliot Berman is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts. Prior to arriving at Seton Hall, Berman was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania, where he also received his Ph.D. in 2022. His primary area of research addresses the ways that social media platforms have transformed journalistic labor. Before entering academia, Berman served as the Director of New Media for a political communications firm based in New York City and Washington, D.C.



James Corino, Ed.D.

*Department of Education Leadership,
Management and Policy*

James Corino Ed. D., currently serves as the Director of M.A. and Ed.S. advanced degree and certification programs in ELMP. Corino has distinguished himself as an educational leader. His acumen was manifest in a host of responsibilities: high school teacher, coach, assistant principal/director of athletics, school principal, assistant superintendent, superintendent, and, more recently, as an administrator at Seton Hall University. Since 2007, Jim has served as a professor and the Executive Director of the Master of Arts (M. A.) & Education Specialist (Ed. S.) Advanced Degree Programs in Education Leadership, Management, and Policy. He teaches educational leadership courses at the Master's, Education Specialist, and Doctoral levels.



M. Hayden, Ph.D.

*Department of Communication,
Media and Arts*

Dr. M. Hayden joins Seton Hall as a Lecturer in the Art History program in the College of Human Development, Culture, and Media. She holds a B.A. in Art/ Art History from Clark Atlanta University, M.A. in Museum Professions from Seton Hall University and Ph.D. in History of Art from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. Her career has included working at notable art institutions such as The Studio Museum in Harlem and The Newark Museum and teaching at regional colleges. Her current research is focused on color symbolism and the creative process of the ancient indigenous arts of southern Africa.



**Kishon C.
Hickman Sr., Ed.D.**

*Department of Education
Leadership, Management and Policy*

Dr. Kishon C. Hickman, Sr. is a seasoned law enforcement leader and educator with over 21 years of experience in the NYPD, where he rose to the rank of Commanding Officer of Information Technology Bureau Investigations Team. With a strong academic background, including a Doctorate in Education from St. John Fisher University, he has been instrumental in integrating practical policing insights into higher education. Dr. Hickman teaches in the Law Enforcement Executive Leadership Program and mentors doctoral candidates. He is also a recognized police subject matter expert, frequently appearing on Live TV as a police subject matter expert for Africa Online Media Corporation, discussing key issues in modern policing.



Sooji Kim, Ph.D.

*Department of Education
Leadership, Management and Policy*

Sooji Kim is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Education Leadership, Management, and Policy. She earned her Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Michigan. Previously, she served as a Strategic Research Fellow at the University of North Carolina System's Division of Strategy and Policy, where she informed senior leadership decisions for 16 UNC institutions.

Her research focuses on enrollment management, including admissions and financial aid, aiming to improve higher education policy and practice with an emphasis on access and equity. Her doctoral dissertation on the federal work-study program received the Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Association of Education Finance and Policy.

School of Diplomacy and International Relations



Britta Redwood, J.D.

*Diplomacy and International Relations
& Law School*

Britta Redwood joins the School of Diplomacy as an Assistant Professor. She previously taught at Howard University and New York University Law Schools. Prior to teaching, she worked at the International Crimes and Accountability program at the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights and as a legal adviser to the Strategic Litigation Project at the Atlantic Council, specializing in work related to international human rights and international criminal law. She began her legal career as a litigation associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in New York. Britta Redwood holds a juris doctor from Yale Law School and a B.A. in philosophy from Princeton University.

University Library



Natalie Lau, M.I.

University Library

Natalie Lau joined Seton Hall in March 2024 as the Scholarly Communications Librarian in the University Libraries. She earned her bachelor's of science and master of information both from Rutgers University-New Brunswick as a first-generation college student. Her background is in evolutionary anthropology/archaeology, public history, and sociology.

Prior to arriving at Seton Hall, Natalie worked at Princeton University Library and Rutgers University Libraries. Natalie is looking forward to collaborating with faculty on their scholarly output and how to boost Seton Hall's scholarship profile. Pertaining to her work, she is interested in bibliometrics and holistic methods of scholarly output assessment.

The School of Health and Medical Sciences



**Christina
Barnes, SLP.D.**

*Department of
Speech-Language Pathology*

Christina Barnes is an alumna of Seton Hall University, where she earned both her Bachelors degree in Education and her Masters of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology. She later obtained her Clinical Doctorate in Speech-Language Pathology from Kean University. Dr. Barnes has worked as a Speech-Language Pathologist in various healthcare settings, providing services to individuals with complex medical needs, including those with degenerative diseases. She has specialized training in palliative and hospice care. Her research interests include clinical decision-making in rehabilitation, standardizing practice patterns in exercise science, interprofessional integration in treatment, and clinical training and assessment.



Patrick Bernet, Ph.D.

*Interprofessional Health Sciences
& Administration*

Patrick Bernet applies economic and financial theory to study decisions regarding health behaviors and pregnancy. He also researches the benefits and costs of health interventions. He has published over 30 peer-reviewed research papers in leading journals, such as *The Milbank Quarterly*, *Social Science and Medicine*, and *Medical Care Research and Review*.

Dr. Bernet serves on Maternal and Child Health committees, and volunteers as a counselor helping Medicare and Medicaid recipients with benefits questions. In prior careers, he worked in hospitals, provider offices and insurers. Dr. Bernet enjoys teaching, as it allows him to weave these real world experiences to bring out the practical implications of class theories and concepts.



Chris D'Andrea, M.E.

Department of Athletic Training

Chris has recently joined the School of Health and Medical Sciences as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Athletic Training, bringing with him a wealth of experience and expertise. With a distinguished career spanning 29 years as a certified athletic trainer, Chris has honed his skills across a diverse range of settings, including collegiate athletics, professional sports, secondary school environments, and private clinical practices.

Throughout his career, Chris has been dedicated to advancing the field of athletic training through hands-on clinical work and a commitment to professional development. His extensive background has provided him with a deep understanding of the unique challenges and demands faced by athletes at various levels, allowing him to offer invaluable insights and practical knowledge to his students.

Before joining Seton Hall, Chris established a strong connection with the institution through his roles as a clinical preceptor and a member of the Seton Hall Athletic Training Advisory Board. In these capacities, he played a crucial role in shaping the educational experiences of future athletic trainers and contributing to the ongoing development of the program. His prior involvement with Seton Hall has paved the way for his new position, where he looks forward to further enriching the department with his expertise and passion for athletic training.



**Anna Folckomer,
D.A.O.M.**

Department of Physical Therapy

Anna Folckomer is excited to join the Department of Physical Therapy as an Anatomist. She has been with the university since 2017 as an Adjunct Instructor and is eager to continue to share her enthusiasm for anatomy with the students at Seton Hall. She has previously taught functional anatomy in the US, Canada, UK, Asia, and Australia. She currently maintains a clinical practice in Manhattan.



**Ellen James,
Ed.D., O.T.R./L**

Department of Occupational Therapy

Ellen James earned her EdD in Movement Science and Education from Teachers College Columbia University in 2021, and a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 2010. In 2008, Dr James graduated from Montclair State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Influenced by her Ghanaian heritage, Dr. James has dedicated her career to bringing hope and healing to families of children with disabilities in 7+ developing countries with limited access to resources. Dr. James's research includes the development of train-the-trainer service delivery models that adapt intensive lab-based interventions to everyday routines and activities found in the child's natural environment.



Jessica Latawiec, M.S.

Department of Speech-Language Pathology

Jessica Latawiec joins the Department of Speech-Language Pathology as Director of Clinical Education (DCE). She has practiced clinically in various settings including schools, early intervention, and private practice. Her passion for clinical education stems from her work as a clinical supervisor in an on-campus clinic as well as a clinician and supervisor with "Raising Families," a grant-funded initiative focusing on an interprofessional therapy model. Being part of an interprofessional team aligned with her overall emphasis on collaboration within her clinical work. She is excited to continue to expand on the clinical foundations of graduate students through a collaborative approach in her role as DCE.



**Melissa M.
Morano, M.S., O.T.R.**

Department of Occupational Therapy

Melissa Morano joins the pirate community as a Director of Clinical Education in the Occupational Therapy Program where she began as an adjunct. She received her bachelors in Psychology from Villanova, minoring in both Human Services and Spanish while playing Division 1 soccer. She obtained her MSOT at Seton Hall and is pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Cumberlands in Leadership with a Health Sciences concentration.

Melissa has clinical experience with all ages across the continuum of care, but specializes in pediatrics. Her current research focuses on instructional technology training in OT and OTA programs and faculty readiness. She thanks her own Pirate family including her husband and 3 children for their love and support.



Jeffery Ritter, D.B.A.

*Interprofessional Health Sciences
& Administration*

Dr. Jeff Ritter has over 25 years of health care management experience in consulting, strategy, hospital administration, managed care, and start-up companies. His positions included Director of Training for United Healthcare and Assistant Vice President of Government Programs and Cigna. His general business experience includes roles as a marketing manager, marketing director, and entrepreneur. He was involved in an International Project in Eastern Europe looking at health care reform and the transition to a U.S. based health care system. He also has over 15 years of teaching, research, and academic leadership experience.



Daniel Patrick Walsh, M.M.Sc.

Physician Assistant Program

Dan Walsh is both humbled and excited by the opportunity to join the School of Health and Medical Sciences as a Director of Clinical Education within the Physician Assistant Program.

After receiving a Bachelor's of Nursing degree from Fairfield University, Dan worked in both Critical Care and Emergency Medicine before receiving his Master's of Medical Science degree from Yale. While engaged in the clinical practice of Emergency Medicine, Dan has discovered an appreciation and enjoyment of educating and guiding the next generation of medical providers. He looks forward to the opportunity to help shape the minds of our future leaders in the dynamic clinical landscape of medicine.

Law School



**Galina
Abdel Aziz, J.D.**

Law Library

Professor Aziz is an Assistant Professor and the Faculty Services Librarian for the Peter W. Rodino, Jr. Law Library Center of Information and Technology. She teaches Advanced Legal Research and provides support to faculty conducting scholarly legal research. Prior to joining Seton Hall, Professor Aziz served as an Adjunct Professor of Law in the Farmworker Legal Assistance Clinic at Cornell Law School. She is a graduate of the David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia, where she provided legal services to clients in the Legislation and Civil Rights Clinic and the Housing and Consumer Rights Clinic.



Andrew M. Darcy, J.D.

Center for Social Justice

Andrew Darcy is an Associate Clinical Professor who leads the Health Justice Clinic, which provides direct legal services to individuals in a variety of civil legal matters addressing the social determinants of health. His scholarship and practice focus on the intersection of housing law and civil rights, with a particular concentration on the Fair Housing Act. Prior to joining the Seton Hall faculty, Professor Darcy was a Supervising Attorney at Mobilization for Justice, Inc. in New York City, where he defended low-income New Yorkers at risk of eviction. Before working at MFJ, Professor Darcy was an Associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP.



Lissette Diaz, J.D.

Center for Social Justice

Lissette Díaz (SHLS '07) is thrilled to return to Seton Hall as Associate Clinical Professor teaching the Family Law Clinic at the School of Law. Professor Díaz has more than 15 years of experience practicing family law, housing, and benefits work in New Jersey, at legal services offices and in law firms, including her own law firm. She most recently served as the Legal Director of The Waterfront Project in Jersey City, NJ. Professor Díaz brings with her a commitment to public interest law and serving the community.



Glykeria Teji, S.J.D.

*Center for Social Justice,
Immigrants' Rights/
International Human
Rights Clinic*

Dr. Teji serves as an Associate Clinical Professor in the Center for Social Justice's Immigrants' Rights/International Human Rights Clinic at Seton Hall Law. As the Managing Attorney of the Detention and Deportation Defense Initiative at Seton Hall Law, she led initiatives that safeguarded the rights of noncitizens in immigration detention for over three years. Dr. Teji holds a Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) from Widener University, Delaware Law School, where her research focused on mentally ill noncitizens in removal proceedings; a master's in law (LL.M.) from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and a bachelor's in law (LL.B.) from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki School of Law (Greece, 2010).

Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology



Jamie Boulding, Ph.D.

Department of Theology

Jamie Boulding joins Seton Hall as an Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology with a specialization in Theology and Science. He most recently served as Associate Director of the Witherspoon Institute in Princeton. Prior to that, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Samford University (Alabama), as part of the University of Edinburgh's "God and the Book of Nature" project, supported by the Templeton Foundation. He holds B.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. degrees in Theology from the University of Cambridge, as well as an M.Sc. degree in Science and Religion from the University of Edinburgh. He is the author of *The Multiverse and Participatory Metaphysics* (Routledge, 2021).

The College of Nursing



Caroline Meza, Ph.D.

Department of Nursing

Caroline Meza is excited to return to Seton Hall as an Assistant Professor, after graduating from the College of Nursing with her PhD in 2023. In addition to her 26 years of experience in nursing practice and education, she holds board certifications in Emergency Nursing and Nursing Professional Development and serves on several professional nursing organizations. Her research interests include the transition of graduate nurses into professional practice, the wellbeing of nurses, and the delivery of nursing care within vulnerable populations. As a new faculty member, Caroline will continue her dedication and practice in helping to build great nurses and future leaders.



**Kathryn Tarpey
Balsamo, M.S.N.**

Department of Graduate Nursing

Kate Balsamo is a dual certified Psychiatric Mental Health and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She is the current program director for the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. Kate has over 30 years of nursing experience and has been a primary and acute care provider for 25 years. Kate is passionate about providing specialized care to the pediatric population and their families by treating a range of mental and physical health conditions. Her focus is on the importance of mental health and its impact on physical well-being.

Military Sciences



LTC Scott W. Fisher, M.S.

LTC Scott W. Fisher, born into an Army family, but spent his formative years in South Jersey. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in History, with a concentration in Secondary Education, from King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA in 2004. He was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) at Scranton University the same year, and has served for the United States Army ever since.

LTC Fisher began his service in the Army as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer in the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Airborne) at Fort Richardson, AK, deploying to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. As a Captain, he commanded a Company in the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, NY, and later deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He served as a Training Developer for the Quartermaster Basic Officer Leadership Course for the Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Gregg-Adams, VA.

After being promoted to Major, he was assigned to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY as the Brigade S-4 and later as the Support Operations Officer, and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. LTC Fisher was then assigned as the Battalion Executive Officer at Army Sustainment University, and later served as the Course Manager for the Logistics Basic Officer Leader Course. After being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he was subsequently assigned as Deputy Commanding Officer of the 59th Ordnance Brigade at Fort Gregg-Adams, VA, before finally becoming the Professor of Military Science here at Seton Hall University.

LTC Fisher's military education includes the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course, Airborne School, Aerial Delivery Material Officer Course, Logistics Captains Career Course, Mortuary Affairs Course, Air Assault School, and the Command and General Staff College. LTC Fisher also earned a Master of Science in Adult Learning and Leadership from Kansas State University in 2018. His service has been recognized with numerous awards, including two Bronze Stars, three Meritorious Service Medals, and the Combat Action Badge. He is married (20 years) to former Ms. Nichole M. Florentino, and has two children, Ava and Jaxson.

Visiting Professors



Giovanni Schiuma, Ph.D.

Professor Giovanni Schiuma is a globally recognized thought leader in knowledge and innovation management, serving as a Full Professor and Director of the Department of Engineering at LUM University in Italy. A Fulbright Scholar at Seton Hall University, Professor Schiuma has held prestigious positions including Director of the Innovation Insights Hub and Professor of Arts-Based Management at the University of the Arts London. His expertise in arts-driven innovation and knowledge-based organizational development has made him a sought-after consultant and speaker worldwide. As President of the International Forum on Knowledge Assets Dynamics (IFKAD) and Chief Editor of the journals *Measuring Business Excellence* and *Knowledge Management Research and Practice*, he has significantly influenced the fields of knowledge management and business excellence. With a prolific academic career spanning over 200 scholarly publications and international engagements at leading institutions such as the University of Cambridge, Cranfield School of Management, and University of Tampere, Professor Schiuma is an inspiring communicator and facilitator known for his creative and innovative approach to solving strategic research and organizational challenges. His work is marked by an exceptional ability to integrate the arts into business practices, driving human-centric innovation in an increasingly digital world.

New Faculty

2024-2025

This brochure reflects all new faculty members at the time of publication.