New Faculty

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA–LINCOLN
2016-2017
Great universities attract professors who combine passion for their discipline with a focused determination to do important work. These new members of our faculty embody the campus’ transformative goals. They were specifically selected for their ability to teach and inspire today’s students, focus their scholarship on issues of contemporary global significance and engage with Nebraska’s citizens on our state’s most pressing needs. We hope that each of them enjoys a long and satisfying career at Nebraska.

The entire campus community shares responsibility for the success of our newest colleagues. We ask each of you to join us in pledging your support and encouragement to this exceptional Class of 2016—our newest and largest Big Ten faculty class at UNL.

Marjorie Kostelnik  
Interim Senior Vice Chancellor for  
Academic Affairs

Ron Yoder  
Interim Vice Chancellor of the  
Institute of Agriculture and  
Natural Resources
# 2016–2017 New Faculty

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Sonia Feigenbaum
Associate Vice Chancellor for International Engagement and Global Strategies. Ph.D., Indiana University

Nathan Bicak

Catherine De Almeida

Daniel Piatkowski
Community and Regional Planning.
Carolyn Brown Kramer

Rebecca Buller

Kelsy Burke

Kathy Chiou

**Stephen Cooper**

**Irina Filina**
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin, 2007; M.S., Saint Petersburg State University, 1998; B.S., Saint Petersburg State University, 1995. **Hometown:** Saint Petersburg, Russia. **Area of focus:** Geophysics, global tectonics, geodynamics. **Representative publications:** “Integration of Seismic and Gravity Data—A Case Study from the Western Gulf of Mexico,” *Interpretation*, 2015; “New 3D Bathymetry and Sediment Distribution in Lake Vostok: Implication for Pre-Glacial Origin and Numerical Modeling of the Internal Processes within the Lake,”

**Julia Frengs**  

2016–2017 New Faculty

**Rachel Goodman**  
Philosophy.  

**Brady Garvin**  
Computer Science and Engineering.  

**Rebecca Harbison**  
Physics and Astronomy.  

**Mark Holden**  
Psychology. Ph.D., Temple University, 2011; B.S., University of Alberta, 2006. **Area of focus:** Cognitive psychology, perception, human memory, individual differences, teaching of psychology. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “A Category Adjustment Approach to Memory for
Margaret Huettl  
History; Ethnic Studies. Ph.D., University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 2016; M.A., University of Oklahoma, 2010; B.A., University of Rochester, 2008. **Hometown:** Waterford, WI. **Area of focus:** Nineteenth and twentieth century Native American history. **Representative awards:** University of Wisconsin-Platteville Chancellor’s Dissertation Fellowship, 2013-2016.

Bilal Khan  

Ursula Kreitmair  

Tri Lai  

**Matthew Loar**
Classics and Religious Studies. Ph.D., Stanford University, 2015; M.St., University of Oxford (Kellogg College), 2009; B.A., Washington and Lee University, 2007. **Hometown:** Littleton, CO. **Area of focus:** Roman myth, ancient graffiti. **Representative publications:** “Hercules, Mummius, and the Roman Triumph in Aeneid 8,” Classical Philology, forthcoming. **Representative grants:** Text Technologies Fellowship, Stanford University ($2,000), 2015; Bi-Annual Fall 2013 Large Henkels Grant, (co-writer), University of Notre Dame Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Letters ($30,000), 2013-2014.

**Ng'ang’a Muchiri**

**Max Mueller**

**ThanhVu (Vu) Nguyen**
Computer Science and Engineering. Ph.D., University of New Mexico, 2014; M.S., Penn State University, 2006; B.S., Penn State University, 2003. **Hometown:** Harrisburg, PA. **Area of focus:** Software engineering, program analysis and verification. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Using Dynamic Analysis to

**Xavier Pérez Giménez**  

**Ingrid Robyn**  

**Patricia Simpson**  
**Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** German studies and international education. **Representative publications:** *Reimagining the European Family: Cultures of Immigration*, Palgrave.
2016–2017 New Faculty


**Olha Tytarenko**
Modern Languages and Literatures. Ph.D., University of Toronto, 2016; M.A., Penn State University, 2008; B.A., Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine, 2004. **Area of focus:** Lincoln Russian literature.

**Hope Wabuke**

**Deadric Williams**
Sociology. Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2014; M.S., Mississippi State University, 2009; B.A., Mississippi State University, 2006. **Hometown:** Macon, MS. **Area of focus:** Sociology of families, health disparities, social inequality. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Economic Hardship, Parents’ Depression, and Relationship Distress Among Couples with Young Children,” *Society and Mental Health*, 2016; Coauthored “Hard Times and Heart Break: Linking Economic Hardship and Relationship Distress,” *Journal of Family Issues*, 2015. **Representative grants:** Couples’ Physiological Synchronicity: Stress, Health, and Relationship Functioning in Everyday Life, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior Seed Grant ($5,000), 2016. **Representative awards:** American Sociological Association Minority Fellowship Program, 2012-2013.

**Sijia Yao**
2016–2017 New Faculty

Press, 2015. **Representative grants:** The PRF (Purdue Research Foundation) Research Grant, Purdue University, 2015; The Lynn Fellowship, Purdue University, 2011-2012. **Representative awards:** 2014-2015 University Award: Online Innovation Award, Purdue University, 2015; Promise Award, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University, 2016.

**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**Herita Akamah**  
**Hometown:** Anong, Cameroon. **Area of focus:** Corporate discretionary disclosures and international accounting.

**Brian Baugh**  
Finance. M.B.A., Brigham Young University, 2010; B.S., Brigham Young University, 2006.  
**Hometown:** Cupertino, CA. **Area of focus:** Household finance, corporate finance. **Representative grants:** Household Finance Grant, National Bureau of Economic Research ($18,000).

**Heng Chen**  
Supply Chain Management. Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2016; M.S., University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2011; B.S., Huazhong University of Science and Technology, 2008. **Area of focus:** Supply chain management, business analytics, airline operations, logistics and transportation. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Lower Cost Arrivals for Airlines: Optimal Policies for Managing Runway Operations under Optimized Profile Descent,” *Production and Operations Management*, 2015; Coauthored “Value of Extended Time-Based Metering for Optimized Profile Descent-Based Arrival Operations,” *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2016. **Representative grants:** Airport Cooperative Research Program, Federal Aviation Administration ($10,000), 2014-2015. **Representative awards:** Eugene M. Isenberg Scholar Award, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2015; Best Student Presentation Award, INFORMS Section of Aviation Applications, 2014.

**Samantha Fairclough**  
Organizational Cognition Division, 2012; Deloitte and Touche Post-Doctoral Fellow, School of Business, University of Alberta, 2009-2011.

Tammie Fischer
Economics; Center for Economic Education.

Steven Hegemann

Jamie Hyodo

Uchechukwu Jarrett

Yanxin Liu
Janet Near

Samuel Nelson

Andre F. Maciel

Laura McLeod
Marketing. M.B.A., Duke University 1999; B.A., Emory University 1992. **Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** Sales and marketing.

**Mark Pogue**
Management. 
M.A., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2007; B.A., Oklahoma State University, 1981. 
**Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** Strengths development.

**Kelli Saunders**
Accounting. Ph.D., University of South Carolina, 2015; M.S., Brigham Young University, 2002; B.A., Brigham Young University, 2001. 
**Hometown:** Liberty, UT. **Area of focus:** Auditing. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Attracting Applicants for In-House and Outsourced Internal Audit Positions: Views from External Auditors,” Accounting Horizons, 2016. **Representative awards:** Access to Audit Personnel, American Accounting Association and the Center for Audit Quality, 2014.

**Huanhuan Shi**
Marketing. Ph.D., Penn State University, 2016; M.S., Fudan University, 2004; B.A., Fudan University, 2001. **Area of focus:** Econometric modeling in strategic marketing decisions (sales force management, advertising spending disclosure, marketing mix allocation). **Representative grants:** Marketing Mix Allocation for Nonprofit Organizations: A Two-Sided Platform Perspective, Marketing Science Institute (MSI) Research Grant ($7,000), 2014-2016; Replacing a Departing Salesperson: Leadership and Motivation Spillover: A Multi-Team, Multi-Level Investigation of Proactivity, Hong Kong Research Grant Council ($82,000), 2015-2017.

**Troy Smith**

**Daniel Tannenbaum**
Economics. Ph.D., University of Chicago, 2014; B.A., Columbia University, 2005. **Hometown:** Los Angeles, CA. **Area of focus:** Labor, public, experimental economics. **Representative grants:**

Jill Trucke

Kevin Wesley

Larry Williams

Juan (Julie) Wu

Di (Cindy) Xu

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Elvira Abrica

Ajai Ammachathram

Kelley Buchheister
Jeong Kyun Choi

Caron Clark

J. Marc Goodrich
2016–2017 New Faculty

Holly Hatton-Bowers


Representative grants: SEED Grant, University of Outreach and International Programs, UC Davis ($10,000), 2013-2014; Children Affected by Methamphetamine Grant, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) ($1.4 Million), 2010-2014.

Aaron Johnson

Hometown: Sanford, NC. Area of focus: Social studies education, technology integration, global education, citizenship education. 


Jennifer Johnson Jorgensen

Hometown: Bemidji, MN. Area of focus: Consumer socialization, consumer behavior in merchandising.

Megan Kelley
Nutrition and Health Sciences. Ph.D., University of Nebraska Medical Center, 2015; M.S., Mississippi State University, 2009; B.A., Eastern University, 2007. 

Area of focus: Social and behavioral determinants of health. 


**Surin Kim**  
Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design; Nebraska Extension.  
M.B.A., Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, 2015;  
B.A., Ewha Womans University, Korea, 2009.  
**Hometown:** Seoul, Korea.  
**Area of focus:** Entrepreneurship.

**Lydia Kiramba**  
Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education.  
Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2016;  
**Hometown:** Lincoln, NE.  
**Area of focus:** Second language acquisition and teacher education, bi-/multilingualism and biliteracy development, bilingual/ESL education.  
**Representative awards:** Excellence in Teaching, Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2015.

**Meredith Martin**  
Educational Psychology.  
Ph.D., University of Rochester, 2014; B.A., Binghamton University, 2006.  
**Hometown:** Vestal, NY.  
**Area of focus:** Developmental psychopathology, peer relationships, bullying.  
**Representative awards:** Owen F. Aldis Scholarship Award for Graduate Research in Ethological Research, International Society for Human Ethology, 2010-2012; Emory Cowan Award for Best Publication by a Graduate Student, University of Rochester, 2013.

**Amanda Morales**  
Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education.  
Ph.D., Kansas State University, 2011;  
M.A., Texas Christian University, 2004; B.A., Kansas State University, 1998.  
**Hometown:** Manhattan, KS.  
**Area of focus:** Multicultural education, Latino/a studies, recruitment and retention in higher education, social justice education, diversity in STEM.  
**Representative publications:** “Agency Inspired by Hardship: English Learner (EL) Latinas as Liberatory Educators,” *The International Journal of Multicultural Education*, forthcoming.
Min (Jessica) Namkung
Area of focus: Math learning disabilities.

Claire Nicholas
Area of focus: Textiles and material culture studies.

Peng Peng
2016–2017 New Faculty


**Katherine Polston**
Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design.

**Rachel Schachter**

**Hideo Suzuki**
Educational Psychology.
Julie Tippens  
Child, Youth and Family Studies. 

Alexandra Twyman  
Educational Psychology.  

Kara Viesca  
Teaching Learning and Teacher Education.  

Yingying Wang  
Special Education and Communication Disorders; Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior.  
Ph.D., University of Cincinnati, 2009; M.S., Shanghai University, 2005; B.S., Shanghai University, 2002. **Hometown:** Shanghai, China. **Area of focus:** Child development, reading, language, neuroimaging. **Representative
2016–2017 New Faculty


**Jiujiu Yu**  
Nutrition and Health Sciences.  

**Sarah Zuckerman**  
Educational Administration.  

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

**Fadi Alsaleem**  
Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction; Mechanical Engineering.  


Ashraf Aly Hassan
Civil Engineering. Ph.D., University of Cincinnati, 2010; M.S., Wageningen University, 2004; B.S., Cairo University, 2000.


Shudipto Dishari
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Ph.D., National University of Singapore; B.S., Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. Area of focus: Polymers, materials, membranes, thin films, energy, environment, biotechnology. Representative awards: Baxter Young Investigator Award, 2014.

Jongwan Eun
Andrew Harms

Forrest Kievit

Seunghee Kim

Siamak Nejati

Prahalada Rao

Rajib Saha
Christine Wittich
Civil Engineering.

Ruiguo Yang
Mechanical and Materials Engineering.

HIXSON LIED COLLEGE OF FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Robert Derr
School of Art; Art History and Design.

Hye-Won Hwang
Glenn Korff School of Music.
Ph.D., University of California, Riverside, 2013; M.A., City University London, 2003; M.A., New York University, 2007; B.A., Ewha Woman’s University, 1999. **Area of focus:** Critical dance studies, dance education, movement analysis, modern dance, ballet, korean dance. **Representative publications:**
Joshua Lowe  
Art; Art History and Design. M.F.A., Purdue University, 2015; B.S., Grace College, 2005. 
**Area of focus:** Design pedagogy, creativity.

Gregory Simon  
**Hometown:** Corvallis, OR. 
**Area of focus:** Composition, jazz studies. 
**Representative publications:** "Assessment and Frameworks in Collegiate Composition Studios," *Oxford Handbook on Music Assessment*, 2015; 
**Representative awards:** Winner of the POLYPHONOS Commission Competition, the Esoterics, 2013; Resident Composer, University of Missouri International Composers’ Festival, 2013.

Colleen Syron  
**Hometown:** New York, NY. 
**Area of focus:** Design, branding, advertising, interactive. 
**Representative awards:** Best Event Marketing or Sales Promotion, Marine Marketers of America, 2015; Best Regional/Local Marketing, Marine Marketers of America, 2014.

INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Michael Adamowicz  
Agronomy and Horticulture; Center for Biotechnology. Ph.D., University of Lille I, France, 2004; M.S., University of Lille I, France, 2000; B.S., University of Lille I, France, 1998. 
**Hometown:** Saint-Quentin, France. 
**Area of focus:** Proteomics, metabolomics, mass spectrometry, plant stress, plant metabolism. 
**Representative publications:** “Quantitative Proteomics Analysis of Camelina Sativa Seeds Overexpressing the AGG3 Gene to Identify the Proteomic Basis of Increased Yield and Stress Tolerance,” *J Proteome Res*, 2015; 

Sophie Alvarez  
Agronomy and Horticulture; Center for Biotechnology. Ph.D., University of Lille I, France, 2004; M.S., University of Lille I, France, 1998. 
**Hometown:** Saint-Quentin, France. 
**Area of focus:** Proteomics, metabolomics, mass spectrometry, plant stress, plant metabolism. 
**Representative publications:** “Quantitative Proteomics Analysis of Camelina Sativa Seeds Overexpressing the AGG3 Gene to Identify the Proteomic Basis of Increased Yield and Stress Tolerance,” *J Proteome Res*, 2015;

**Angela Anandappa**  
Food Science and Technology. Ph.D., University of Kentucky, 2013; M.S., University of Kentucky, 2000; B.S., University of Kentucky, 1997. **Hometown:** Colombo, Sri Lanka. **Area of focus:** Advanced sanitation technologies, methods, systems, materials and strategies for food processing environments.

**Tracy Anderson**  
Southeast Research and Extension Center. M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2004; B.A., University of Nebraska at Kearney, 1991. **Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** 4-H Youth Development. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “The Relationship of Student Employment to Student Role, Family Relationships, Social Interactions, and Persistence,” *College Student Journal*, 2006.

Wichita, KS. **Area of focus:** Physiology, biochemistry and toxicology. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Honey Bee Gut Microbiome is Altered by In-Hive Pesticide Exposures,” *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 2016; Coauthored “Insecticide Sensitivity of Native Chloride and Sodium Channel Expression in a Mosquito Cell Line,” *Pesticide Biochemistry and Physiology*, 2015.  

**Howard W. Buffett**  
Megan Burda
Nebraska Extension. M.A., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2011; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2006. **Area of focus:** 4-H Youth Development. **Representative awards:** Achievement in Service Award, NAE4-HA, 2014.

Susan Burton
Agriculture, Leadership, Education and Communication. Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2012; M.A., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2000; B.A., University of Nebraska at Kearney, 1995. **Hometown:** Kearney, NE. **Area of focus:** Leadership development and motivation in cross-cultural and diverse environments. **Representative awards:** Ping Fellowship, Council on International Educational Exchange, 2011-2012.

Jiajia Chen

Julie Crandall
Nebraska Extension. M.A., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2014; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2010. **Hometown:** Schuyler, NE. **Area of focus:** 4-H Youth Development.

Jenny Dauer
2016–2017 New Faculty

**Lynn Devries**
Nebraska Extension. M.A., Concordia University, Nebraska, 2014; B.A., University of Nebraska at Kearney, 1991. **Hometown:** Fairfield, NE. **Area of focus:** Extension Educator, Learning Child Program in Adams County.

**Christian Elowsky**
Agronomy and Horticulture; Center for Biotechnology. Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2016; M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2000; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1997. **Area of focus:** Plant anatomy and biology, confocal microscopy, taphonomy and forensic biology. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “MSH1 is a Plant Organellar DNA Binding and Thylakoid Protein Under Precise Spatial Regulation to Alter Development,” *Molecular Plant*, 2016; Coauthored “A Bacterial Effector Co-Optes Calmodulin to Target the Plant Microtubule Network,” *Cell Host and Microbe*, 2016.

**Melissa Fenton**

**Beth Galles**
School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. D.V.M., Iowa State University 2003; B.S., Creighton University, 1998. **Hometown:** Remsen, IA. **Area of focus:** Clinical veterinary sciences.

**John Gamon**
School of Natural Resources. Ph.D., University of California, Davis, 1989; M.S., University of California, Davis, 1986; B.S., Yale University, 1979. **Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** Exchanges of carbon and water vapor between the biosphere and the atmosphere that affect ecosystem productivity and help regulate our atmosphere and climate. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Monitoring grassland carbon dynamics: Integrating optical and flux measurements,” *Agricultural Forest Meteorology*, in review; Coauthored “The net ecosystem exchange of rapidly changing high Arctic landscapes and potential for upscaling,” *Global Change Biology*, in review. **Representative grants:** “The functional significance of plant optical diversity: a multi-scale analysis,” NSREC
Discovery Grant ($105,000), 2015-2020; “Quantifying the carbon balance of Mattheis Ranch,” Rangeland Research Institute, University of Alberta ($40,000), 2015-2017.

Troy Gilmore

Carrie Gottschalk
Southeast Research and Extension Center. M.S., Bellevue University, 1998; B.S., University of Nebraska at Omaha, 1995. **Hometown:** Seward, NE. **Area of focus:** Early childhood social emotional development and mental health.

Jody Green
Southeast Research and Extension Center. Ph.D., Purdue University, 2008; M.S., Purdue University, 2004; B.A.S., University of Guelph, 1998. **Hometown:** Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. **Area of focus:** Urban entomology, urban and industrial pest management.

Ashu Guru
4-H Youth Development. Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2004; M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2000; B.Eng., University of Delhi, India, 1992. **Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** Teaching and learning in non-formal settings, experience-based learning, youth engagement. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Avatars Go to Class: A Virtual Environment Soil Science Activity,” *Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Education*, 2011; Coauthored “Using Geospatial Information Technologies and Field Research to Enhance Classroom Learning,” *Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Education*, 2005. **Representative
Jayne Hutton
Nebraska Extension.
J.D., Creighton School of Law, 1994; B.F.A., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1986; B.S., University of Nebraska at Omaha, 1992. Hometown: Bellevue, NE. Area of focus: Law, communications and marketing.

Jacques Izard

Mark Kaemingk

**Joseph Keaschall**
Agronomy and Horticulture. Ph.D., Purdue University, 1983; M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1980; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln; 1978. **Hometown:** Ravenna, NE. **Area of focus:** Plant breeding and genetics. **Representative publications:** “Industry-Scale Evaluation of Maize Hybrids Selected for Increased Yield in Drought-Stress Conditions of the U.S. Corn Belt,” *Crop Science*, 2015. **Representative awards:** Bolton Carothers Award; Dupont Research Award for Outstanding Scientific Accomplishment–Optimum Aquamax Research Team, 2014; Million Unit Club Award, Dupont Pioneer Award for Development of Inbred PHP38; Female of 3394, 1991.

**Erin Laborie**
West Central Research and Extension Center. M.S., South Dakota State University, 2015; B.S., The Ohio State University, 2013. **Hometown:** Upper Sandusky, OH. **Area of focus:** Beef systems.

**Nevin Lawrence**

**Allison Leimer**
Southeast Research and Extension Center. M.S., New Mexico State University, 2013; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2010. **Hometown:** Mead, NE. **Area of focus:** Teaching science/wildlife curriculum. **Representative awards:** New Mexico Association of Extension 4-H Agents Clover Award, 2016.
Chandrasegaran Massilamany

Renee McFee
School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. D.V.M., Kansas State University, 2005; Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2015; M.S., Kansas State University, 2012; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2001. Hometown: Fremont, NE. Area of focus: Veterinary education and physiology. Representative publications: “Comparison of Case-Based and Hands-On Laboratory Exercises as Group-Based Learning Activities to Supplement the Lecture

Theodore Lioutas

Bijesh Maharjan
Portion of a Veterinary Physiology Course,” forthcoming; Coauthored “VEGFA: Just One of Multiple Mechanisms for Sex-Specific Vascular Development Within the Testis?” *Journal of Endocrinology*, 2015. **Representative awards:** Veterinary Medicine Class of 2017 Faculty of the Year Award, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2014.

**Gregory McKee**

**Justin McMechan**

**Timothy Meyer**
Agricultural Economics. M.S., Iowa State University, 2006; B.S., Buena Vista University, 2003. **Hometown:** Denison, IA.
Aaron Mittelstet  
Biological Systems Engineering. Ph.D., Oklahoma State University, 2015; M.S., Oklahoma State University, 2009; B.S., Oklahoma State University, 2000. **Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** Watershed management, watershed modeling, streambank erosion. 

Benny Mote  

Chandra Murray  

Destiny Mostek  
Southeast Research and Extension Center. M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2016; B.S., Metropolitan State University of Denver, 2012. **Hometown:** Grand Island, NE. **Area of focus:** Food, nutrition and health.

Michael Naldrett  
Center for Biotechnology. Ph.D., University of Reading, UK, 1992; B.S., University of Reading, UK, 1987. **Hometown:** United Kingdom. **Area of focus:** Proteomics
Sathish Kumar Natarajan

Rex Nelson

Humeshkar Nemala

Philip Onwiler
4-H Youth Development. M.S., Wayne State College, 2015; B.S., University of Nebraska at Kearney, 2008. Hometown: Ashland, NE. Area of focus: College and career readiness.
Jeffrey Peterson  
Agricultural Economics.  
B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1991. **Hometown:** Lincoln, NE. **Area of focus:** Grain marketing and grain merchandising.

Sarah Schlund  
Nebraska Extension.  
M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2016; B.S., Eastern Illinois University, 2013. **Hometown:** Princeton, IL. **Area of focus:** Crops and water.

Jamilynn Poletto  
School of Natural Resources. Ph.D., University of California, Davis, 2014; B.S., University of Rochester, 2009. **Hometown:** Conklin, NY. **Area of focus:** Fish physiology and conservation. **Representative publications:** “Fish protection devices at unscreened water diversions can reduce entrainment: Evidence from behavioral laboratory investigations,” *Conservation Physiology*, 2015; “Juvenile green sturgeon (Acipenser medirostris) and white sturgeon (Acipenser transmontanus) behavior near water-diversion fish screens: Experiments in a laboratory swimming flume,” *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*, 2014. **Representative grants:** Assessment of Temperature- and Nutritional-Dependent Physiological Properties in Larval Green and White Sturgeon, Delta Stewardship Council Delta Science Program ($989,000), 2016-2019. **Representative awards:** Graduate Student Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation, 2010-2013.

Brandi Sigmon  
Agronomy and Horticulture. Ph.D., Iowa State University, 2010; B.S., Mars Hill College, 2003. **Hometown:** Hickory, NC.

Seung-Hyun Ro  
Biochemistry.  
Ph.D., University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, 2011; M.S., Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, 2001; B.S., Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, 1999. **Hometown:** Daejon, South Korea. **Area of focus:** Nutrient sensing and metabolic signaling in obesity and cancer. **Representative publications:** “Distinct Functions of ULK1 and ULK2 in the Regulation of Lipid Metabolism in Adipocytes,” *Autophagy*, 2013; “Janus-Faced Sestrin2 Controls ROS and Mtor Signaling Through Two Separate Functional Domains,” *Nature Communications*, 2015. **Representative grants:** Role of Adipose Autophagy in Metabolism Project, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), (Co-investigator), 2010-2011; Biochemical Basis for Sestrin2 in Metabolism Project, Diabetes Interdisciplinary Study Program Grant, National Institute of Health (NIH), (Co-investigator), 2015. **Representative awards:** Travel Fellowship for Trainees in Diabetes Research, Center for Diabetes Research, University of Minnesota, 2010; Finalist for Pilot Grant, Center for Gastrointestinal Research, University of Michigan, 2015.
**2016–2017 New Faculty**

NC. **Area of focus:** Plant evo-devo and comparative genomics. **Representative publications:** “Evidence of Selection at the Ramosa1 Locus during Maize Domestication,” *Molecular Ecology*, 2010.

**Rohita Sinha**

**Shelly Stitt**
Southeast Research and Extension Center. M.A., Arizona State University, 2010; B.A., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2007. **Hometown:** Seward, NE. **Area of focus:** 4-H Youth Development. **Representative awards:** Communicator Award, National Association Extension of 4-H Agents, 2016.

**Erica Stuber**

**Xinghui Sun**

**Cole Thompson**
Agronomy and Horticulture. Ph.D., Kansas State University, 2014; M.S., Kansas State University, 2011; B.S., Kansas State University,
2008. **Hometown:** Beloit, KS. **Area of focus:** Integrated turfgrass management. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Evaluation of Selective Herbicide Combinations and Paclobutrazol on Rough Bluegrass Control,” *Crop, Forage, and Turfgrass Management*, 2016; Coauthored “Seasonal Timing of Glyphosate Application Influences Control of Poa Trivialis,” *Applied Turfgrass Science*, 2014. **Representative grants:** Effects of Seeding Rate, Seeding Timing, and Mowing Height on Mixed Stands of Tall Fescue and Zoysiagrass, California State University Agriculture Research Institute ($40,000), 2015. **Representative awards:** Graduate Student Travel Award, American Phytopathological Society North Central Division, 2013; Graduate Student Research Award of Merit, Kansas State University Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, 2012.

**Natalie Umphlett**
School of Natural Resources. M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2008; B.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2005. **Hometown:** Gainesville, GA. **Area of focus:** Applied climatology. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Improving Climate Resiliency in Tribal Communities: Partnering for Change in the Missouri River Basin,” *Water Resources IMPACT*, 2015; Coauthored “A Historical Perspective on Nebraska’s Variable and Changing Climate,” *Great Plains Research*, 2015. **Representative grants:** Increasing the Capacity for Municipal Climate Adaptation Planning in the Lower Missouri River Basin States, NOAA ($207,842), 2016-18; Climate Masters of Nebraska, EPA ($41,752), 2011-2013. **Representative awards:** Staff Recognition Award, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, School of Natural Resources, 2012; Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Graduate Women in Science, 2004 and 2005.

**Elizabeth VanWormer**
Ana Maria Velez Arango
Entomology. Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2013; M.S., Universidad Nacional de Colombia, 2009; B.S., Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia, 2006. **Hometown:** Medellin, Colombia. **Area of focus:** Insecticide toxicology. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Knockdown of RNA Interference Pathway Genes in Western Corn Rootworms (Diabrotica Virgifera Virgifera Leconte) Demonstrates a Possible Mechanism of Resistance to Lethal Dsrna,” *Plos One*, 2016; Coauthored “Developing an In Vivo Toxicity Assay for Rnai Risk Assessment in Honey Bees, Apis Mellifera L. to Dietary Rnai,” *Chemosphere*, 2016. **Representative grants:** Functional Validation of CO2 Receptors for Western Corn Rootworm Control by Rnai, Nebraska Corn Board ($49,998), 2016; Evaluation of Hunchback V1, Brahma V1 and Brahma V2 Hairpins for Prnai Effects on Western Corn Rootworm in Maize, Dow Agrosciences ($7,500), 2016. **Representative awards:** New Investigator Award, American Chemical Society Agro Division, 2016; Milton E. Mohr Teaching Fellowship, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2012.

Rodrigo Werle
West Central Research and Extension Center; Agronomy and Horticulture. Ph.D., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2016; M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2012; B.S., São Paulo State University, Brazil, 2009. **Hometown:** North Platte, NE. **Area of focus:** Cropping systems. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Distribution of Herbicide-Resistant Shattercane and Johnsongrass Populations in Sorghum Production Areas of Nebraska and Northern Kansas,” *Agronomy Journal*, 2016; Coauthored “Environmental Triggers of Winter Annual Weed Emergence in the Midwestern United States,” *Weed Science*, 2014. **Representative awards:** Weed Science Society of America, Outstanding Graduate Student Award, 2016; North Central Weed Science Society, Outstanding Graduate Student Award, 2013.

Mark Wilkins
Biological Systems Engineering; Food Science and Technology. Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2001; M.S., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2001; B.S., Purdue University, 1999. **Hometown:** Lafayette, Indiana. **Area of focus:** Bioprocess engineering. **Representative publications:** Coauthored “Critical Factors Affecting the Integration of Biomass Gasification and Syngas Fermentation Technology,” *AIMS Bioengineering*, 2016; Coauthored “Continuous Xylanase Production with Aspergillus Nidulans Under Pyridoxine Limitation Using a Trickle Bed Reactor,” *Bioresource Technology*, 2015. **Representative grants:** Decreasing Severity of Switchgrass Pretreatment Through Biological Pretreatment, U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Central Sun Grant Initiative ($171,994), 2013-2015;
Judy Wu-Smart

Changmou Xu
Food Science and Technology. Ph.D., University of Florida, 2014; M.S., China Agricultural University, 2010; B.S., Jiangxi Agricultural University, 2007. Hometown: Lincoln, NE. Area of focus: Food chemistry, food analysis, food microbiology, food processing, functional food, product development.


Samuel Wortman
Yuhang Xu
Statistics. Ph.D., Iowa State University, 2016. **Area of focus:** Nonparametric/semi-parametric statistical methods, survival analysis, functional/longitudinal data analysis, measurement error models, missing data analysis, statistical applications in biology, agriculture, public health.

Zheng Xu

Melinda Yerka

**Robert Zink**
COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM AND
MASS COMMUNICATION

Michael Hanus

Octavio Kano-Galvan

Katherine Krcmarik

Brandon Nutting

COLLEGE OF LAW

Mandy Lee

Maggie Wittlin

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Andrew Cano
University Libraries.

Hometown: Miami, FL. Area of focus: Distance education.