B1G ACADEMIC ALLIANCE

# Department Executive Officers (DEO)

Participant Directory

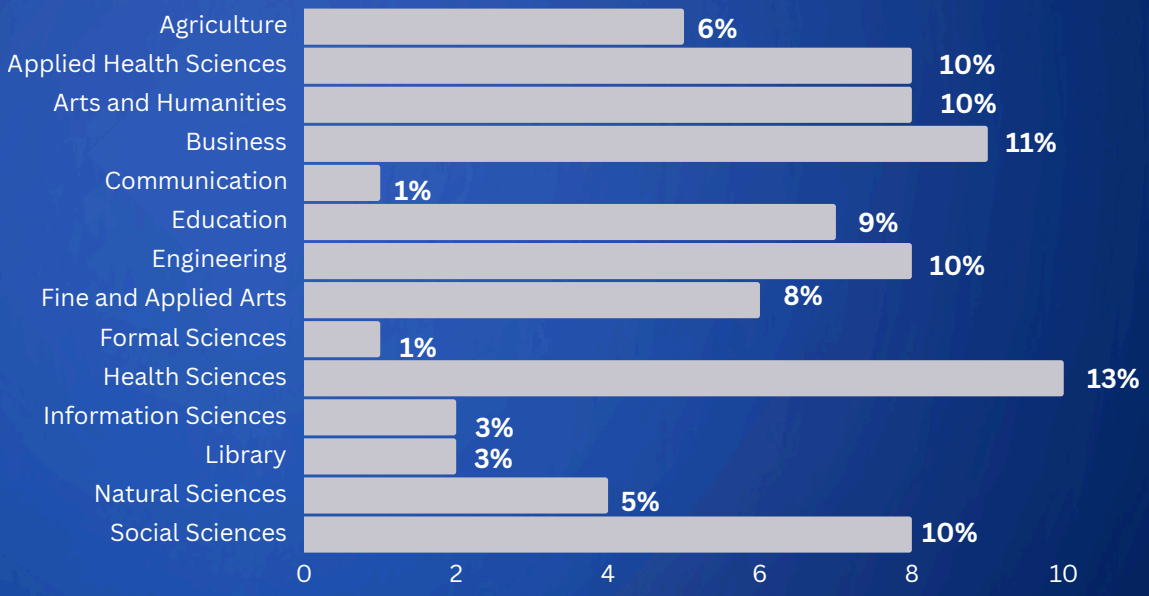
2026

# DEO BY THE NUMBERS

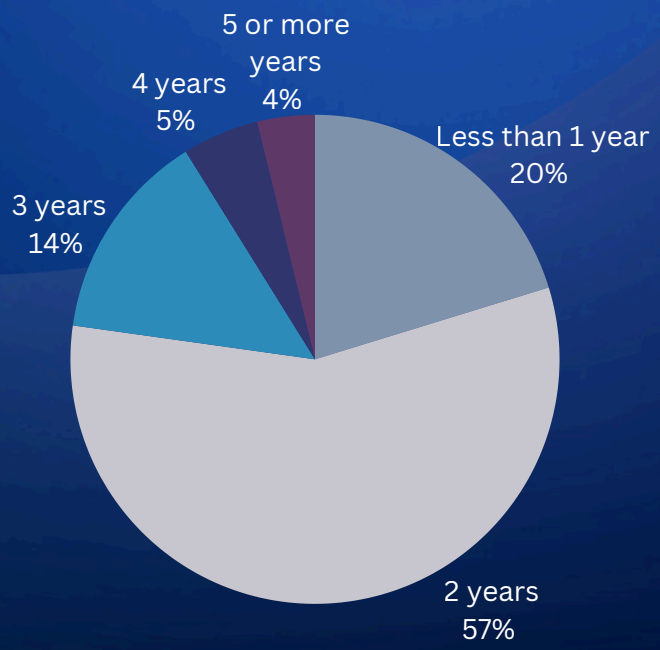
B1G ACADEMIC ALLIANCE

**79 Fellows**
**2026 - 2027 Cohort**

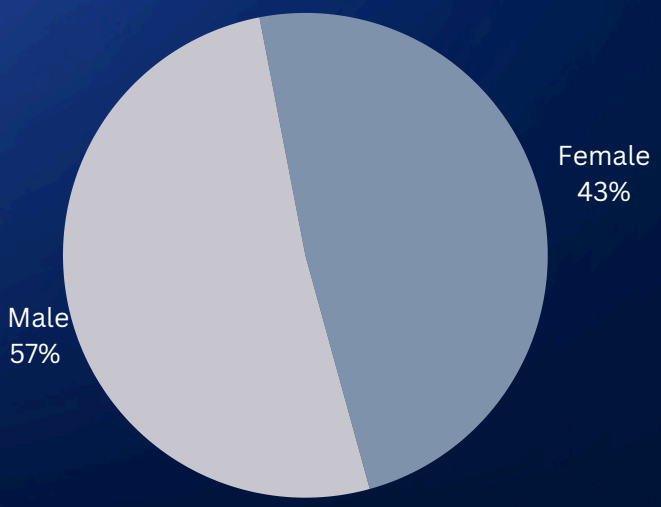
## College Representation




## Years as DEO




## Gender Distributioin




ACADEMIC ALLIANCE

# Marcelo Nobrega

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Chicago



Professor and Chair

Human Genetics

nobrega@uchicago.edu

Marcelo Nobrega is a professor and Chair of the Department of Human Genetics at the University of Chicago. He has held leadership previous leadership positions, including Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs and director of the Genetics, Genomics and Systems Biology graduate program at the Biological Sciences Division at UChicago. Dr. Nobrega directs a lab whose research focuses on human genetics, functional genomics, and the regulation of gene expression during development and disease. His work has helped clarify how noncoding regions of the genome, especially enhancers and other cis-regulatory elements, control when and where genes are activated.

# Luvell Anderson

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Illinois



Professor and Head

Liberal Arts & Sciences

vell11@illinois.edu

Luvell Anderson is currently a Professor and Head of Philosophy, as well as an affiliate with the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, and African American Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He earned his PhD in Philosophy at Rutgers University (2011).

# Joshua Danish

University of Illinois



Professor and Department Head

Education

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Dr. Joshua Danish is a Professor and Department Head in the Curriculum and Instruction Department at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. He is a Learning Scientist, and a Fellow of the International Society of the Learning Sciences. The overarching theme in his program of research is an examination of how people learn with and through 'representations' of content. Representations refer to drawings, charts, diagrams as well as models, computer simulations or games, and even embodiment. His work primarily focuses on science education for elementary students and often explores the role of technology in supporting learning.

# Tania Ionin

University of Illinois

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Head of Linguistics

Liberal Arts & Sciences

tionin@illinois.edu

Tania Ionin is Professor and Head of Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She received her PhD from MIT in 2003, and has been ta UIUC since 2007. Prior to becoming Head in 2025, she served as the director of graduate studies for Linguistics for 12 years. She specializes in formal approaches to second language acquisition and experimental linguistics.

# Nenad Miljkovic

University of Illinois



Department Head

Grainger College of Engineering

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Dr. Nenad Miljkovic is the Department Head and Founder Professor of Mechanical Science and Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). He has courtesy appointments in Electrical and Computer Engineering, and the Materials Research Laboratory. He is the Director of the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Center (ACRC), which is supported by 21 industrial partners. His group's research intersects the multidisciplinary fields of thermo-fluid science, interfacial phenomena, scalable nanomanufacturing, and renewable energy.

# Brooke C. White

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Illinois



Professor and Director

School of Art & Design

brookecw@illinois.edu

Brooke White lives in Champaign, Illinois where she is Professor & Director of the School of Art & Design in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. White's artistic practice is characterized by a cross-disciplinary approach to image-making, incorporating both analog and digital photographic techniques, experimental processes, digital video, and bookmaking. For over two decades, her work has explored themes such as the landscape, nature, and human connection to place. Her latest projects delve into the impact of climate-related weather events on rising water levels in regions such as the Gulf South, the Caribbean, and the Maritimes. For the past two decades, She has been deeply engaged in higher education as an educator, artist, and leader.

# Jaroslaw Harezlak

DEO FELLOWS 2026

Indiana University



Provost Professor and Chair

School of Public Health-Bloomington

harezlak@iu.edu

Jaroslaw Harezlak, Ph.D., is a Provost Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington. He holds a Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Harvard University, an M.Sc. in Statistics from the University of British Columbia, and a B.Sc. in Mathematics from Simon Fraser University. Dr. Harezlak completed a research fellowship in Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health. A nationally and internationally recognized scholar, Dr. Harezlak has authored more than 170 peer-reviewed publications and a first-author book with Springer. His research spans regularization methods, functional data analysis, semiparametric regression, and collaborative studies in brain imaging, wearable computing, and network analysis.

# Sarah Imhoff

Indiana University



Chair

College of Arts and Sciences

seimhoff@iu.edu

Sarah Imhoff is Professor and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies and Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Chair in the Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University Bloomington. She is author of Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism (Indiana University Press, 2017) and The Lives of Jessie Sampter: Queer, Disabled, Zionist (Duke University Press, 2022) and, with Susannah Heschel, The Woman Question in Jewish Studies (Princeton University Press, 2025). She is also the editor of Judaism in 5 Minutes (Equinox, 2025) and, with Andrea Dara Cooper, co-editor of Jewish Women Thinkers (Wayne State University Press, forthcoming). She is the founding co-editor of the journal American Religion.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## Haizhen Lin

Indiana University



Professor and Chair

Kelley School of Business

hzlin@iu.edu

Dr. Haizhen Lin is Professor and Chair of Business Economics and Public Policy at the Kelley School of Business, Indiana University, and holds the Jack R. Wentworth Professorship. She is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Dr. Lin earned her PhD in Economics from Boston University. Dr. Lin is an accomplished empirical economist whose research lies at the intersection of industrial organization and health economics, with a particular emphasis on market structure, firm behavior, and organizational dynamics in the U.S. health care sector. Her scholarship appears in many of the field's leading journals, including the RAND Journal of Economics, Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Industrial Economics, Journal of Public Economics, and International Economic Review.

## Gamze Ozogul

Indiana University



Professor and Department Chair

School of Education

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Gamze Ozogul, School of Education at Indiana University Bloomington, (Department of Learning, Design, and Adult Education), Bloomington, (IN), USA Gamze Ozogul is a Professor and Department Chair in the Department of Learning, Design, and Adult Education. Her research focuses on Instructional Design, Instructional Strategies, AI in Higher Education, Instructional Design in Emerging Learning Environments.

# Andrew Casto

University of Iowa



DEO

School of Art, Art History, and Design

andrew-casto@uiowa.edu

## DEO FELLOWS 2026

Andrew Casto is an artist living and working in Iowa City, and has exhibited work internationally in Spain, Croatia, Italy, Austria, Slovenia, Belgium, New Zealand, China, Switzerland, France, England, and Japan. He was a recipient of the Emerging Artist award by the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, a long-term resident at The Archie Bray Foundation, as well as a finalist for the Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramics Prize in London. Casto has exhibited in over ninety group and solo exhibitions, and is currently Professor and Director of The School of Art, Art History, and Design at The University of Iowa.

# Paul Dilley

University of Iowa



Holtsmark Associate Professor and DEO
School of Art, Art History, and Design

paul-dilley@uiowa.edu

Paul Dilley is the Erling B. 'Jack' Holtsmark Associate Professor in the Classics and DEO of the newly formed Department of Classics and Religious Studies (CARS), which includes the Certificates in Jewish Studies and Museum Studies. He is also chair of the graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities. Dilley's focus is on the Religions of Late Antiquity, especially Early Christianity, and his work ranges from critical editions of damaged ancient texts to broader questions of cultural history. He frequently uses digital approaches, including Artificial Intelligence, in his research, which has been supported by the Institute for Advanced Study, ACLS, Mellon, von Humboldt, American Research Center in Egypt, NEH, and Schmidt Sciences, among others.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## Bruno Policeni

University of Iowa



Chair and DEO

Medicine

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Bruno Policeni, MD, MBA, is Chair and Departmental Executive Officer of the Department of Radiology at the University of Iowa Health Care, where he also holds the Kenneth L. and Gloria D. Krabbenhoft Chair of Radiology. A Professor of Radiology with secondary appointments in Otolaryngology and Dental Radiology, he earned his medical degree in Brazil, completed residency training in diagnostic radiology at the National Cancer Institute in Rio de Janeiro, a neuroradiology fellowship at the University of Iowa, and later an MBA from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business. Since joining the University of Iowa faculty in 2006, Dr. Policeni has held numerous educational and administrative leadership roles.

## Melissa Tully

University of Iowa



Director and Professor

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Melissa Tully (PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison) is professor and director of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Iowa. She is a Collegiate Scholar in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a Researcher Affiliate in the Center for Social Science Innovation at the University of Iowa.

# Mariana Falconier

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Maryland



Professor and Director

School of Public Health

marianak@umd.edu

Dr. Mariana Falconier (she/her) is a Professor and Director of the Couple and Family Therapy Master's Program since 2020 in the Department of Family Science. She completed both her master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) and her doctoral degree within the same department. Prior to joining UMD, she was an Associate Professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where she directed the Center for Family Services (2008–2016) and the Master's Program in Marriage and Family Therapy (2017–2019). She also previously directed outpatient mental health clinics at Washington Assessment and Therapy Services and Vesta, Inc. (2004–2008). Originally from Argentina, Dr. Falconier is a licensed psychologist in her home country and a licensed MFT in Maryland and Virginia.

# Lee Konstantinou

University of Maryland




Professor and Director

College of Arts and Humanities

lkonstan@umd.edu

Lee Konstantinou is Professor of English and Chair of the Department of English at the University of Maryland. He wrote the novel 'Pop Apocalypse,' the literary history 'Cool Characters: Irony and American Fiction,' and the single-novel study ''The Last Samurai' Reread.' With Samuel Cohen, he edited 'The Legacy of David Foster Wallace' and with Georgiana Banita he edited 'Artful Breakdowns: The Comics of Art Spiegelman.' He's currently writing a history of comics called 'Creator-Owned Comics' as well as a novel.

# Jared Rawlings

University of Maryland

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Director

Arts & Humanities

jrrawlin@umd.edu

Jared R. Rawlings, Ph.D. (he/him) is an accomplished scholar, educator and arts administrator who assumed the role of director of the School of Music and tenured professor of music education at the University of Maryland on July 1, 2025. He joins Maryland after serving as director of the School of Music and tenured professor of music education at the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he catalyzed forward-thinking curricula and interdisciplinary collaborations, strengthening both the unit's academic profile and artistic distinction.

# Dan Vincent

University of Maryland



Professor and Department Chair

College of Behavioral & Social Sciences

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Daniel R. Vincent, Professor, received his PhD in economics from Princeton University in 1987. He was a Rhodes Scholar and received an MA from Oxford and a BA in History from the University of Toronto. Before joining the University of Maryland, he taught at the University of Western Ontario, the Department of Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences at Northwestern University and at the California Institute of Technology. His main area of research is the application of game theory to trading environments. He has studied dynamic bargaining with asymmetric information and the theory of auctions. His current research is on revenue maximizing selling mechanisms for sellers with more than one object - an area sometimes referred to as "multidimensional mechanism design."

# Lilia Cortina

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Michigan



Professor and Chair

Literature, Science and the Arts

lilia@umich.edu

Lilia Cortina is University Diversity and Social Transformation Professor of Psychology, Women's & Gender Studies, and Management & Organizations at the University of Michigan. An organizational psychologist, she investigates the many ways in which people are subordinated, violated, and relegated to the margins of organizational life. These interpersonal indignities range from subtle social slights to general incivility to blatant harassment and violence. Professor Cortina's scholarship spans the full spectrum, with a particular focus on sexual harassment and workplace incivility. Her publications number over 100. In recognition of unusual and outstanding contributions to the field, Professor Cortina has been named Fellow of the American Psychological Association and the Society for Industrial/Organizational Psychology.

# Colin Gunckel

University of Michigan



Associate Professor and Department Chair
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
gunckel@umich.edu

Colin Gunckel is an associate professor of film, television, and media, American culture and Latina/o studies at the University of Michigan and the author of Mexico on Main Street: Transnational Film Culture in Los Angeles before World War II (Rutgers UP, 2015). He has published essays in American Quarterly, Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies, Film History, Journal of Popular Music Studies, and Social Justice. He has also edited and contributed to multiple edited collections and exhibition catalogs, including the award-winning LA RAZA (UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, 2020).

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## James Moon

University of Michigan



Professor and Chair

College of Pharmacy

moonjj@umich.edu

James J. Moon, PhD J. G. Searle Professor Chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences Department of Biomedical Engineering Department of Chemical Engineering University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Dr. James Moon is the Chair and Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Moon received his bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley (2002), and his Ph.D. from Rice University (2008), and he completed his postdoctoral training at MIT. He joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in 2012. His interdisciplinary research program aims to develop novel biomaterials-based strategies to improve the immune system. Dr. Moon has published over 140 research articles, including those published in Science, Nature Materials, Nature Nanotechnology, and Nature Biomedical Engineering.

## Allison Steiner

University of Michigan



Professor and Chair

Engineering

alsteine@umich.edu

Dr. Allison Steiner is a Professor of Atmospheric Sciences and the Chair of the Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering at the University of Michigan. She received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University and her Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from Georgia Institute of Technology. Her research uses and develops models to explore the interactions of the biosphere and atmosphere, with the goal of understanding the natural versus human influence on climate and atmospheric chemistry.

# Courtney Syder

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Michigan



Associate Professor and Associate Director
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

cksnyder@umich.edu

Dr. Courtney Snyder is Associate Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Conducting at the University of Michigan, where she conducts the University Concert Band and teaches undergraduate and graduate conducting. Additionally, she assists in the administration of the Michigan Bands program and is Chair of the Conducting Department. She is Music Director of the Michigan Youth Symphonic Band and Artistic Director of the Emergence Series. Previously, she served as Assistant Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at the University of Nebraska–Omaha, conducting the Maverick Marching Band and Concert Band and teaching conducting and music education. She also served as Music Director of the Nebraska Wind Symphony and taught in Michigan public schools.

# M. Paola Leon Arizmendi

DEO FELLOWS 2026

Michigan State University



Associate Dean

Lyman Briggs College

leonariz@msu.edu

M. Paola is a relational leader, educator, and facilitator whose work asks how learning communities can become places of reflection, care, and shared growth. As Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence and Academic Innovation, she helps weave together teaching, leadership, and culture so that the daily life of the college reflects the values we espouse. Her portfolio includes faculty and staff development, curricular innovation, and Education Abroad and Away programs that foster connection within and beyond the classroom. Her professional path has moved across classrooms, communities, and continents. As a Fulbright Scholar in Peru, M. Paola taught and co-facilitated faculty learning in qualitative research while deepening partnerships with social work educators and community organizations.

# Kristen Bieda

Michigan State University



Professor and Chairperson

Education

kbieda@msu.edu

Kristen Bieda is Chairperson of Teacher Education and a professor of mathematics education. She also serves as the Associate Director of Mathematics for the CREATE for STEM Institute. A former middle school, high school and undergraduate mathematics teacher, her research focuses on classroom practices related to reasoning and proof in middle grades and secondary mathematics, with the goal of informing teacher education, curriculum, and professional development programs. Through her research, she has developed innovative models for secondary mathematics clinical experiences, and digital mathematics curriculum for the secondary level that enhances student collaboration and teacher practice through the integration of learning analytics. Bieda is a former President of the Michigan Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators.

# Edward Brown

DEO FELLOWS 2026

Michigan State University



Professor

Natural Science

browned@msu.edu

A native of Ohio, Brown did his undergraduate studies at the Ohio State University. He then earned a Ph.D. in 1999 from the University of California, Berkeley, under the supervision of Prof. Lars Bildsten. While at Berkeley, Brown was supported by a NASA Graduate Student Fellowship. Upon graduating, he was awarded an Enrico Fermi Fellowship at the University of Chicago, where he worked in the ASC Center for Astrophysical Thermonuclear Flashes. In 2004, Brown moved to Michigan State University to join the Physics and Astronomy faculty, with a joint appointment in the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory. In 2018, Brown became Associate Chair of the Department of Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering at MSU and in 2021 he became interim chairperson.

# Rachel Minkin

Michigan State University



Associate Dean

Libraries

minkinr@msu.edu

Currently serving as Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning at the Michigan State University Libraries, Rachel has also served as Head of Reference and Discovery Services and as an information literacy librarian (both at MSU), a reference and instruction librarian at Lansing Community College (Lansing, MI) and a reference librarian at the Graduate Theological Union's Flora Lamson Hewlett Library (Berkeley, CA). Rachel's earned her MLIS at University of Pittsburgh and also holds a Master of Theological Studies (MTS) from Vanderbilt Divinity School (Nashville, TN).

# Pete Savolainen

DEO FELLOWS 2026

Michigan State University



MSU Research Foundation Professor
and Chairperson
Engineering

pete@msu.edu

Dr. Peter Savolainen is an MSU Research Foundation Professor and Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Michigan State University. Dr. Savolainen's research examines the fundamental nature of road user behavior, particularly how traffic safety and operations are influenced by behavior in consideration of roadway and traffic characteristics. His work in this area has provided important information as to how road user behavior changes in response to such roadway features as maximum speed limits, centerline/shoulder rumble strips, and red-light-running cameras at signalized intersections. His research has also advanced fundamental knowledge as to how roadway design, environmental factors, and in-vehicle distractions affect the risk of traffic crashes.

# Erin Holker

University of Minnesota

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Department Chair

Medical School

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Dr. Erin Holker is an accomplished academic leader, professor, and board-certified clinical neuropsychologist. She serves as the Department Chair of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical School and the Domain Chief of Rehabilitation Shared Clinical Services. With over two decades of specialized expertise, Dr. Holker balances executive leadership with active clinical practice and pioneering research. Her career is dedicated to improving the evaluation, treatment, and long-term outcomes of individuals navigating complex neurocognitive and movement disorders.

# Chris Johnstone

University of Minnesota



Department Chair

Education and Human Development

john4810@umn.edu

Christopher Johnstone is Chair of the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development (OLPD) at the University of Minnesota. His academic department that features undergraduate, graduate (Masters / PhD), and Licensure programs. In total, OLPD serves over 800 students per year, with nearly equal numbers of undergraduate and graduate students. The department employs over 50 faculty and staff and is proudly one of the most representationally diverse departments on campus. Prior to his Chair role, Johnstone served in leadership positions for his department, including coordination of the Leadership of International and Intercultural hybrid PhD program and Director of Graduate Studies. He started his post-PhD career as a collegiate staff member, serving as Director of International Initiatives for the university's College of Education and Human Development.

# Jim Kakalios

University of Minnesota



School Head

College of Science and Engineering

kakalios@umn.edu

DEO FELLOWS 2026

Jim is a Taylor Distinguished Professor of Head of the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. While he has been on the faculty since 1988, he hav only served as department head since July 2024.

# Michael Minta

University of Minnesota



Professor and Department Chair

College of Liberal Arts

mdminta@umn.edu

Michael D. Minta is Department Chair and Professor of Political Science at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Dr. Minta is a leading expert in the study of the political representation of African American and Latino interests in the United States. He has written and published numerous books and articles on minority representation in the US Congress and by organized interests. His latest book, No Longer Outsiders: Black and Latino Interest Group Advocacy on Capitol Hill (published by the University of Chicago Press in 2021) won the 2023 W.E.B. Du Bois Distinguished Book Award presented by National Conference of Black Political Scientists. Dr. Minta regularly teaches courses in U.S. government pertaining to African American politics, congressional politics, and interest group advocacy. Prior to entering the academic profession, Dr. Minta worked as a policy analyst and researcher for the Texas state legislature and attorney general.

# Shiv Sivaramakrishnan

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Minnesota



Professor and Head

College of Biological Sciences and Medical School
sivaraj@umn.edu

Sivaraj (Shiv) Sivaramakrishnan is a Professor and Head of the Department of Genetics, Cell and Developmental Biology at the University of Minnesota, Twin-Cities. He obtained his Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering from the College of Engineering Pune followed by a Master's in Mechanical Engineering and Computational Mechanics at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He obtained his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering at Northwestern University and postodc at Stanford University (Advisor: James Spudich). In January 2011, he began his independent research career as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology at the University of Michigan Medical School and in July 2015 was recruited with tenure to the Cellular Biophysics faculty cluster at the University of Minnesota, Twin-Cities.

# Ozgur Araz

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Professor and Department Chair

College of Business

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Ozgur Araz is the US Bank Distinguished Professor of Business and the Chair of the Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics at the College of Business, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His research interests include business analytics, supply networks and healthcare operations. Before joining the College of Business, he served on the faculty of the College of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He earned his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from Arizona State University and completed his postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Araz's research has been supported by NIH, Veterans Engineering Resource Center, HDR company, Boys Town of Nebraska, Nebraska Medicine and the University of Nebraska Foundation.

# Kate Brooks

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Director

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Kate Brooks is a Professor of Agricultural Economics and Director of a newly combined academic school within the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), bringing together the former departments of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication. She previously served for two years as Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. In her current role, she is helping lead the integration of faculty, staff, academic programs, governance, and resources across these two academic units while building a shared vision and maintaining strong disciplinary identities. Brooks joined the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 2013 after serving on the faculty at West Texas A&M University. She holds a B.S. in Agribusiness from Kansas State University, an M.S. in Agribusiness from Illinois State University, and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University.

# Sarah Gervais

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Professor and Department Chair

College of Arts and Sciences

sgervais2@unl.edu

Dr. Gervais has a dual title PhD in Social Psychology and Women's Studies from The Pennsylvania State University and currently serves as the Chair in the Department of Psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Before her tenure as Chair, she served as Associate Chair from 2016-2025. Her research focuses on sexual objectification, dehumanization, and sexual violence and lies at the intersections of social psychology, women's studies, the law, and public health.

# Miechelle McKelvey

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Department Chair

College of Education and Human Sciences

mmckelvey2@unl.edu

Dr. McKelvey serves as Chair of the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, bringing over two decades of academic, administrative, and clinical leadership in higher education. Prior to joining UNL, she spent 20 years at the University of Nebraska at Kearney in expanding leadership roles, including Associate Dean of the College of Education, Chair of the Department of Communication Disorders, and Interim Chair of Teacher Education. Throughout her administrative tenure, Dr. McKelvey has built a strong reputation for fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, supporting faculty development, and advancing high-impact educational initiatives. Her research specializes in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) assessment and intervention, focusing on adults with acquired neurogenic disorders such as aphasia, ALS, cerebral palsy, and autism.

# Larkin Powell

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Director

College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

lpowell3@unl.edu

Larkin Powell is Director for the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The School has 75 faculty with expertise in climate, water/soils, and biodiversity in working landscapes. As professor of conservation biology and animal ecology in the School, Larkin taught undergraduate and graduate courses on wildlife management and research, and his research program focused on landscape dynamics, animal demography and movements, and decisions made by private landowners in the Great Plains and throughout the world. He is a Fellow of the Wildlife Society, and the author of 8 books including The Best of Intentions: A Story of Landscape Change in the Heart of the Great Plains, released in 2025.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## Roger Beebe

Ohio State University



Professor and Chair

Arts & Sciences

beebe.77@osu.edu

Roger Beebe is a filmmaker whose work since 2006 consists primarily of multiple-projector performances and essayistic videos that explore the world of found images and the 'found' landscapes of late capitalism. He has screened his films around the globe at such unlikely venues as the CBS Jumbotron in Times Square and McMurdo Station in Antarctica as well as more likely ones including Sundance and the Museum of Modern Art with solo shows at Anthology Film Archives, El Centro de Cultura Digital in Mexico City, and Los Angeles Filmforum among many other venues. Beebe is also a film programmer: he ran Flicker, a festival of small-gauge film in Chapel Hill, NC, from 1997-2000 and was the founder and Artistic Director of FLEX, the Florida Experimental Film Festival from 2004-2014. He is currently Chair of the Department of Art at the Ohio State University.

## Matthew Kahle

Ohio State University



Professor and Chair

College of Arts and Sciences

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Matthew Kahle is chair of the Department of Mathematics at The Ohio State University. He has been a faculty member since 2011. Before this, he held postdoctoral fellowships at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and Stanford University. He received his PhD from University of Washington in 2007.

# Alison Norris

Ohio State University

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Chair

Public Health

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Alison Norris is a Professor in Ohio State's College of Public Health, and the chair of the Division of Epidemiology. Dr. Norris is the co-Principal Investigator of the Ohio Policy Evaluation Network (OPEN), an interdisciplinary research program that studies the impacts of reproductive health-related policies and laws on the health and well-being of Ohioans and people in the region. She co-led the research steering committee for #WeCount, a national abortion reporting project that measures the impacts, in all US states, of Dobbs, the US Supreme Court case that overturned Roe v. Wade. Dr. Norris has been engaged with sexual and reproductive health research in east Africa and the US for 25 years.

# Binaya Subedi

Ohio State University



Department Chair

Education and Human Ecology

subedi.1@osu.edu

Dr. Subedi's is an educator and community-based researcher/worker, and his research examines the intersection of anti-Asian racism, anti-racist pedagogies and community-based advocacy. In particular, the research engages with assets or community cultural wealth of immigrant/refugee communities and its implications to teacher education. Dr. Subedi's scholarship also engages with the need to critique deficit representations of communities within the Global South and advocates for decolonizing teaching and research practices. His current research includes transdisciplinary collaborations on immigrant youth advocacy efforts and mental health challenges immigrant/refugee communities faced during the pandemic.

# Tzachi Zach

Ohio State University

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Department Chair

Fisher College of Business

zach.7@osu.edu

Tzachi Zach is the chair of the accounting and MIS department at Ohio State University, since 2025. Before then, He served as the director of the Master's of Accounting program at his department since 2016. He started my career at Washington University in St. Louis in 2002 and moved to Ohio State in 2008.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## Jason Brown

University of Oregon



Department Head

College of Arts and Sciences

brownj11@uoregon.edu

Jason Brown is an acclaimed fiction and nonfiction author, professor, and the current Director of the Creative Writing MFA Program at the University of Oregon. Over a career spanning more than two decades, his literary work has been widely celebrated for its sharp psychological depth and evocative sense of place.

## Kristin Buxton

University of Oregon



Head of Science Liaisons

Libraries

kbuxton@uoregon.edu

Kristin Buxton is the Head of Science Liaisons and an Associate Librarian at the University of Oregon Libraries, where she has led the science liaison team since September 2023. In this leadership role, she manages a dedicated team of science librarians and serves as the primary subject specialist for the departments of Mathematics, Computer Science, Data Science, Physics, and Materials Science and Technology.

# Alison Gash

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Oregon



Profesor and Department Head

College of Arts and Sciences

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Alison Gash is Department Head for Political Science at University of Oregon and a member of the Faculty Senate. Her research focuses on the intersection of law and policy in American politics with a specific focus on race, gender and LGBTQ politics and rights and youth participation in conflict politics. In addition to publishing numerous books and journal articles, her work has appeared in Washington Post, Newsweek, Politico, Slate, LA Times and the Chicago Tribune. She is also a frequent contributor to the Washington Monthly. Alison engages in education policy advocacy to complement her teaching and scholarship. Over the past two years she has joined and convened several communities of scholars working on higher ed policy advocacy. She co-founded a non-profit to help preserve LGBTQ affirming learning.

# Lauren Lanahan

University of Oregon



Associate Professor and Department Head

Lundquist College of Business

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Lauren Lanahan is an associate professor and department head in the Department of Management at the Lundquist College of Business. Her research investigates the relationship between institutions and innovation. She pays particular attention to spillovers and industry agglomeration patterns and examines outcomes related to research production, firm performance, and economic growth.

# Maureen Zalewski

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Oregon



Professor and Co-Director

College of Arts and Sciences

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Dr. Maureen Zalewski is a professor and licensed clinical psychologist. She serves as the co-Department Head for Child Behavioral Health and co-Director of Clinical Training for Psychology at the University of Oregon. Her research focuses on intergenerational mental health and is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

# Guoray Cai

Penn State University

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Department Head

College of Information Sciences and Technology

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Dr. Guoray Cai is a professor and department head of Human-Centered Computing and Social Informatics, College of Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State University. He has 27 years of academic experiences and has active research programs in HCI, GIS, Geo-Collaboration and Geo-Deliberation. He is a member of ACM, IEEE, and CRA.

# Lauren Duffy

Penn State University



Professor and Department Head

Health and Human Development

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Lauren Duffy is professor and head of the Penn State Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management (RPTM). Her research is grounded within critical tourism, leisure behavior, cultural geography and sustainability studies. Her work has focused on a number of topics, including understanding how issues of equity and power play out in tourism development; rural and community-based tourism planning; tourism and conservation; local food systems and food socialization; leisure and technology; and resident-tourist relationships. In 2022-23, Duffy was a U.S. Fulbright Scholar in Saint Lucia, working at Sir Arthur Lewis Community College in its Department of Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality.

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# Cora MacBeth

Penn State University



Director

School of Science

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Dr. Cora E. MacBeth is an American inorganic chemist and academic administrator who serves as the Director of the School of Science and Professor of Chemistry at Penn State Behrend. An alumna of the institution, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Behrend in 1996 before obtaining her Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Kansas under Dr. Andrew S. Borovik and completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech).Prior to returning to her alma mater, Dr. MacBeth spent 20 years at Emory University (2005–2025) in key faculty and administrative roles, including Associate Dean of Science for the Emory College of Arts and Sciences. Her research program at Emory centered on synthetic inorganic chemistry, green catalysis, and sustainable synthesis.

# Michael Nelson

Penn State University



Department Head

College of the Liberal Arts

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Michael J. Nelson is professor of Political Science. He specializes in American politics, state politics, and judicial politics. His research examines the effects of judicial elections, public support for courts and the rule of law in the United States and abroad, and the effects of collegiality on judicial behavior. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation and the Russell Sage Foundation and has received best book awards from the Law and Courts and State Politics and Policy sections of the American Political Science Association.

# Amber Stephenson

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Penn State University



Professor and Director

School of Business Administration

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Dr. Stephenson, PhD, MPH, is a Professor of Management and Director of the School of Business Administration at Penn State Harrisburg, where she leads more than 50 faculty and a diverse portfolio of undergraduate and graduate business programs, including more than 10 undergraduate majors and an MBA. Her research focuses on how women leaders experience gender bias, the health workforce and organization, as well as professional identity. She publishes in top general and healthcare management journals like Harvard Business Review, Personnel Review, Human Resource Development Quarterly, Health Care Management Review, and Medical Care Research and Review.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## Li-Shan Chou

Purdue University



Professor and Head

Health and Human Sciences

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Dr. Li-Shan Chou completed his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at Tatung Institute of Technology in Taiwan and subsequently earned his MS and Ph.D. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is currently employed as a Professor and Department Head of the Department of Health and Kinesiology at Purdue University, having previously served as Professor and Chair of the Department of Kinesiology at Iowa State University (2019-2025) and in the Department of Human Physiology at the University of Oregon (2000-2019). His research focuses on the biomechanical analysis of human movement, specifically clinical gait analysis, dynamic balance assessment in the elderly and patients with neurological disorders (such as traumatic brain injury), and the application of wearable sensors for remote monitoring.

## Rami Ghannam

Purdue University



Professor and Head

School of Engineering Technology

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Rami Ghannam is Professor and Head of the School of Engineering Technology at Purdue University. He holds a PhD in Engineering from the University of Cambridge, an MSc in Electronic Engineering from Imperial College London, and a BEng in Electronic Engineering from King's College. Before joining Purdue, he was Professor of Electronics at the University of Glasgow, where he also held leadership roles in postgraduate education, academic quality and engineering education. His earlier career included research experience at IBM Research and EPFL in Switzerland.

# Huseyin Gulen

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Purdue University



Professor of Finance

Mitch Daniels School of Business

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Huseyin Gulen is Department Head, Bob and Sharon Schafer Chair in Finance, and Professor of Finance at Purdue University's Mitch Daniels School of Business. His research spans empirical asset pricing, corporate finance, and behavioral finance, with influential work on stock return predictability, political uncertainty, investor beliefs, and credit cycles. He has published in top journals including the Journal of Finance, Journal of Financial Economics, and Review of Financial Studies, and his scholarship has been recognized with awards such as the Jack Treynor Prize. He has more than 11,000 citations in Google Scholar. Gulen is a frequent presenter at leading conferences worldwide and a dedicated teacher and mentor at the undergraduate, MBA, and PhD levels. Professor Gulen earned his Ph.D. in finance from Purdue University.

# Joyce Main

Purdue University



Professor and Kamyar Haghighi Head

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Joyce B. Main, Ph.D., is Kamyar Haghighi Head and Professor of Engineering Education at Purdue University. She is Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Engineering Education, the flagship journal of the American Society for Engineering Education. Her research focuses on the academic and employment pathways of science and engineering students. She was awarded a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) grant to examine the longitudinal career paths of engineering PhDs. Her contributions have been recognized with the Purdue School of Engineering Education 2024 Award for Excellence in Leadership, the 2023 Award for Excellence in Mentoring, and the 2022 Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching. Dr. Main is a Fellow of the American Society for Engineering Education.

# Mike Wendt

DEO FELLOWS 2026

Purdue University



Department Head

Veterinary Medicine

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Dr. Wendt is a professor and head of the Basic Medical Sciences Department. Dr. Wendt earned his bachelor's degree from St. Norbert College in 2002. After completing his graduate studies at the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2007, Dr. Wendt became an American Cancer Society fellow with Dr. William Schiemann at the University of Colorado Cancer Center. In 2010 Dr. Wendt moved with the Schiemann lab to Case Western Reserve University where he received a K99/R00 transition award from the NCI. Dr. Wendt joined the faculty of Purdue University as an Assistant Professor in 2014. In 2023 Dr. Wendt was recruited to the University of Iowa where he was the Arlene Holden Professor of Breast Cancer Research and leader of the Experimental Therapeutics program within the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center.

# Gabriella D'Arcangelo

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Rutgers University-New Brunswick



Department Head

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Gabriella D'Arcangelo is Professor and Chair of the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience at Rutgers University – New Brunswick. She earned her Ph.D. in Neurobiology and Behavior from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Her research interests revolve around molecular mechanisms of mammalian brain development and neurological disorders.

# Ashutosh Goel

Rutgers University-New Brunswick



Professor and Department Chair

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Dr. Ashutosh Goel is Professor and Chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Rutgers University. He earned his B.S. (Hons.) and M.S. (Hons.) in Physics from Guru Nanak Dev University, India, and his Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Aveiro, Portugal, in 2009. Before joining Rutgers as a faculty member in 2014, he worked as a Materials Scientist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington, and as a Senior Research Scientist specializing in optical fiber technologies at Sterlite Technologies Ltd., India. Professor Goel leads an internationally recognized research program focused on understanding and designing glass and ceramic materials through the integration of advanced characterization, computational modeling, and data-driven materials design.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## James Oehmke

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Professor and Department Chair

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Senior academic administrator and policy economist at peak productivity. Results oriented with proven record of research, publication, and resulting policy change. Senior leadership, problem solving, and change management experience at department chair and office director levels. Strong skills in finding synergies between research, teaching, and outreach. Technical expertise in development policy; food and resource economics; health economics and policy; policy analysis and modeling; econometric and psychometric methods. Consummate diplomatic and interpersonal skills. Excellent ability to work seamlessly between the big picture and details, between technical economic theory and application, and across disciplines.

## Anne Piehl

Rutgers University-New Brunswick



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Anne Morrison Piehl is Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department of Economics at Rutgers University – New Brunswick and a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. She received her A.B. from Harvard University and her Ph.D. from Princeton University, both in economics. Piehl's research on the economics of crime as it relates to immigration, sentencing, youth homicide, and program evaluation has been published widely in economics and related fields. The influence of her work at the state and federal levels was recognized by the Rutgers College Class of '62 Presidential Public Service Award.

# Katie Pincura

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Associate Teaching Professor

The Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

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Katie Pincura is a public health educator and health policy advocate who serves as a teaching associate professor and leads the public health undergraduate program at Rutgers University's Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy.

# Ben Williams

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Professor and Department Chair

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Benjamin Williams received his PhD in 2003 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Electrical Engineering. He joined UCLA in 2007, and is currently Professor and Department Chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His research is in the field of semiconductor photonics, and focuses on the development of materials and laser technology for the terahertz frequency range.

# James Boedicker

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USC



Professor and Co-Director

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James Boedicker is a Professor of Physics and Biology at the University of Southern California. His roles at USC include co-director of the Core Center of Excellence in Nano Imaging, director of the Physical Biology PhD program, committee member for the Women in Science and Engineering program, and lead investigator of a MURI project focused on biological communication networks. His research group combines tools in synthetic biology and biophysics to understands interactions between cells and the collective behaviors of cellular networks. He is the recipient of an NSF Career Award, DARPA Young Faculty Award, and the USC Raubenheimer Faculty Award.

# Jen Hook

USC



Professor and Chair

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Jennifer Hook is the Florence Everline Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology at the University of Southern California. Her research examines gender inequality in work and family life, with a focus on how social policies and institutional contexts shape women's employment, fathers' involvement in childcare, and the division of household labor in North America and Europe. She is currently President of the Work and Family Researchers Network, an international and interdisciplinary association of work-family scholars, and Chair of the American Sociological Association's Family Section.

# Keith Mayerson

DEO FELLOWS 2026

USC



Professor of Art

Roski School of Art and Design

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Keith Mayerson is a tenured Professor of Art at the Roski School of Art and Design at USC. As Chair of 2D in 2018, he created their Visual Narrative Art program and interdisciplinary Visual Narrative Art Minor, a collaboration with the USC School of Cinematic Arts, Dornsife/English, and USC Dramatic Arts, in conversation with the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art. As an exhibiting artist, Mayerson is inspired by symbols of American history and pop culture, depicting familiar figures who have impacted the country's consciousness alongside personal scenes and abstract "iconscapes." His work allegorizes resilience, determination, and the "American dream." Iconic images, heroes, places, and events are rendered luminous and transcendent through his micro-managed brushwork and coloring.

# John Monterosso

USC



Professor and Vice Chair

Psychology

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John Monterosso is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California, where he serves as Vice Chair of the Department of Psychology and Associate Director of the Neuroscience Graduate Program. His research bridges behavioral science and cognitive neuroscience, focusing primarily on the mechanisms underlying addiction and self-regulation.

# Dan Wadhwani

DEO FELLOWS 2026

USC



Professor and Director

Marshall School of Business

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Dan Wadhwani is Orfalea Chair in Entrepreneurship and the Director of the Greif Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at USC Marshall School of Business. The Center's operations include (a) curriculum (80 classes and 2 entrepreneurship masters programs), (b) co-curriculum (non-credit programs, events, and experiences such as business plan competitions, an incubator/accelerator, clubs and experiential travel), (c) content (traditional and applied research as well as teaching material development), (d) community (engagement with alums and the LA entrepreneurial ecosystem), and (e) commons the oversight of faculty, facilities, and funding. Before stepping into the role of director in 2025, Dan was research director for the center and led their masters programs.

# Maitreya Dunham

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Washington



Professor and Chair

School of Medicine

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Dr. Maitreya Dunham is Professor and Chair of the Department of Genome Sciences at the University of Washington School of Medicine, where she holds the William H. Gates III Endowed Chair in Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Dunham's research sits at the intersection of genomics, evolution, and synthetic biology. Her laboratory utilizes yeast genetics and advanced genomic technologies to investigate genome evolution, copy number variation, the biology of aging, and the mechanisms underlying multi-drug antibiotic resistance.

# Pamela Kohler

University of Washington



Professor and Chair

Nursing

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Pamela Kohler is Professor and Chair in the Department of Child, Family, and Population Health Nursing and holds a joint appointment in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington. Her clinical expertise includes HIV care, disaster response, and emergency nursing. Throughout her academic scholarship, Dr. Kohler has held a sustained commitment to improving access to health information and high-quality health care for adolescents and young adults. She develops and evaluates health services interventions, aiming to improve adolescent engagement in HIV care and prevention. She has led multiple studies using standardized patient actors to assess and enhance the quality of care, and to destigmatize health care interactions, for young people in South Africa and Kenya.

# Kristen Missall

DEO FELLOWS 2026

University of Washington



Professor and Chair

College of Education

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Kristen Missall, PhD, NCSP, is Chair of Special Education, School Psychology, and Statistics & Measurement and Professor and Director of the School Psychology Program in the College of Education at the University of Washington. Her scholarship focuses on child growth and development during the preschool and elementary school years encompassing three interconnected areas: early academic and social development and assessment, data-based decision making within multi-tiered systems of support, and school readiness and the transition to formal schooling.

# June Spector

University of Washington



Professor and Chair

School of Public Health

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Dr. Spector currently serves as Chair of the University of Washington (UW) Department of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences (DEOHS). She also serves as Director of the NIH/NIEHS-funded Biostatistics, Epidemiologic, and Bioinformatic Training in Environmental Health (BEBTEH) T32 training grant. Dr. Spector previously served as an occupational research physician and occupational disease prevention lead at the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries' Safety & Health Assessment & Research for Prevention (SHARP) Program. Her research focuses on occupational heat stress, in close collaboration with workers, community-based organizations, employers, and state agencies. Dr. Spector is board-certified in internal medicine and occupational medicine.

# Alvin Wee

University of Washington

DEO FELLOWS 2026



Professor and Chair

Dentistry

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Dr. Wee earned his B.D.S. from the National University of Singapore, followed by a Certificate in Prosthodontics and an M.S. from the University of Iowa. He subsequently completed a Certificate in Maxillofacial Prosthetics at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; a Certificate in Clinical Research and an M.P.H. at The Ohio State University; a D.D.S. at Creighton University; and a Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska. Career: Dr. Wee began his academic career at The Ohio State University, where he was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. He has also served as faculty of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Creighton University, and the University of Minnesota. He is currently Professor with tenure and Chair of the Department of Restorative Dentistry at the University of Washington School of Dentistry.

# DEO FELLOWS 2026

## Dan Cavanagh

University of Wisconsin-Madison



Director

Letters and Science

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Dan Cavanagh, Ph.D., is a composer and pianist who has garnered numerous awards in both areas. He has composed or arranged for Latin Grammy-winning AfroBop Alliance, the legendary Patti LaBelle, and a wide range of classical and jazz groups across North America and Europe. He has released five critically acclaimed jazz CDs as a leader, with two more recordings in production for upcoming release. His music can be heard on many other recordings both classical and jazz. Cavanagh continues to be commissioned and programmed around the world, with recent performances by the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, duality (Vanessa Sielert and Catherine Anderson), Sarah Brailey with the Pro Arte String Quartet, and many more. He has performed extensively in North America and Europe, and more broadly internationally.

## C. Shawn Green

University of Wisconsin-Madison



Professor and Department Chair

Letters and Sciences

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C. Shawn Green is the Department Chair and the Mark and Ilene Laufman Family Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his PhD in Brain and Cognitive Sciences from the University of Rochester in 2008 and then completed a post-doctoral fellowship in machine learning and computer vision at the University of Minnesota, before joining the faculty at the University of Wisconsin in 2011. His research focuses on human learning and neuroplasticity - particularly in the design of training paradigms to purposefully improve human visual and cognitive skills.

DEO FELLOWS 2026

# Paul Koch

University of Wisconsin-Madison



Professor and Chair

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

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Dr. Paul Koch is a Professor and the Department Chair of Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He leads the Koch Lab, where his research focuses heavily on turfgrass pathology, pesticide fate, and turfgrass

# Sean Schoville

University of Wisconsin-Madison



Professor and Department Chair

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

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As a department chair and professor in the Department of Entomology at the University of Wisconsin Madison, Dr. Schoville's leadership role supports the academic research mission and community of scholars in the fields of entomology, evolution, and ecology. He earned his PhD at the University of California Berkeley (2009) in Environmental Science, Policy, & Management. His research expertise lies in the area of evolutionary genetics and molecular ecology, where he study how organisms adapt to environmental change.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Amy Santos

University of Illinois
DEO Liaison since 2017



Associate Provost for Faculty Development
Office of the Provost

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Rosa Milagros Santos is the Associate Provost for Faculty Development. In this role, she assists with processes and policies related to faculty development and success, including faculty mentoring, support for pre-tenure and mid-career faculty, career paths for specialized faculty, and leadership development. She also oversees the new faculty orientation, mid-career faculty programming, and the dual-career academic couples program.

## Amanda Diekman

Indiana University
DEO Liaison since 2023



Associate Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs
College of Arts & Sciences

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Amanda Diekman is Provost Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Indiana University. Her research investigates how stereotypes stem from and reinforce the social structure, with a particular focus on disparities in STEM, system change, and organizational trust. She received her B.A. (English and psychology) from Kenyon College, and her Ph.D. (social psychology) from Northwestern University.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Sandy Daack-Hirsch

University of Iowa

DEO Liaison since 2026



Associate Provost

Office of the Provost

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Professor Daack-Hirsch (Sandy) brings extensive experience in faculty leadership and shared governance to Associate Provost for Faculty role. She served as president of the UI Faculty Senate in 2019-20 and co-chaired the university's 2020-21 presidential search. She has also contributed to university initiatives focused on faculty success, teaching effectiveness, strategic planning, and faculty policies and procedures. She has served as executive associate dean and dean of faculty in the College of Nursing since 2020 and previously served as director of the college's PhD program and interim associate dean for graduate practice programs. She joined the University of Iowa as an Assistant Professor in 2007 after a productive career at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and the College of Medicine.

## Laura Rosenthal

University of Maryland

DEO Liaison since 2017



Director for Faculty Leadership

Office of Faculty Affairs

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Laura J. Rosenthal is the Director for Faculty Leadership and a Professor in the English Department. In the Office of Faculty Affairs, she leads projects on faculty development and leadership development. Dr. Rosenthal previously served as the ADVANCE Professor for the College of Arts and Humanities, advancing women and faculty of color. She is the author or editor of five books on Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century British literature and editor of the journal 'Restoration: Studies in Literature and Culture.' Her scholarship focuses on theater, the novel, gender, empire, and histories of emotion.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Sascha Matish

University of Michigan
DEO Liaison since 2019



Associate Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs
Academic Human Resources

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Sascha was appointed Associate Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs and Senior Director of Academic Human Resources at the University of Michigan in June 2019. Sascha initially joined Academic Human Resources in June of 2008. Prior to coming to University of Michigan, Sascha worked as an assistant general counsel at Wayne State University, where she focused on labor and employment law. Sascha also worked as a union-side attorney in a law firm specializing in public sector labor law in educational settings.

## Teresa Mastin

Michigan State University
DEO Liaison since 2025



Professor and Chairperson

Office of the Provost

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Teresa Mastin is a professor and the chairperson for the Department of Advertising Public Relations. Her primary research interests include media advocacy and media coverage of health issues related to women, and vulnerable populations. She has introduced media advocacy to non-governmental organizations in Rwanda, Kenya, and Vietnam. As Director of Diversity and Inclusion at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine (2015 - 2018), Mastin presented diversity and inclusion and cultural competency talks/workshops/grand rounds, and taught sustained dialogue courses.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Beth Lewis

University of Minnesota
DEO Liaison since 2024



Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs
Provost's Office

blewis@umn.edu

Dr. Lewis has been a faculty member at the University of Minnesota for 17 years. Her research has involved conducting randomized trials to examine the effect of exercise on mental health. She served as the chair of the School of Kinesiology from 2017-2023 and took on the role of Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs in July, 2023.

## Christopher Marks

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
DEO Liaison since 2024



Associate Vice Chancellor for Faculty Affairs
The Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor
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Christopher Marks is Associate Vice Chancellor for Faculty and Professor in the Glenn Korff School of Music at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In this role, he provides leadership on activities, initiatives, and policies that support the university's faculty. He served as Associate Dean of the Hixson-Lied College of Fine & Performing Arts from 2015 to 2024, during which time he also served as Interim Director of the School of Art, Art History & Design, Interim Director of the Johnny Carson School of Theatre & Film, and Interim Dean. As a professor, he has taught organ, music theory, and performance practice. He previously taught organ and served as University Organist at Syracuse University.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Helen Malone

Ohio State University
DEO Liaison since 2026



Vice Provost

Office of Academic Affairs

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Helen Malone was named Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at The Ohio State University in June 2019. Her portfolio includes overseeing faculty human resources including compensation, hiring, promotion and tenure, and academic leadership development. Dr. Malone began as an assistant professor at Ohio State in 2005. She received her PhD from UT Austin, her MA from NYU, and her BS from the UC Davis. Dr. Malone's research focuses on teaching individuals with severe and profound disabilities new skills using mobile technologies.

## Sierra Dawson

University of Oregon
DEO Liaison since 2025



Associate Vice Provost for Faculty & Leadership Development
Office of the Provost

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Sierra Dawson's work focuses on faculty and leadership development, with a specific emphasis on support during career transition moments. As a member of the academic affairs team in the office of the provost at the University of Oregon, Sierra coordinates and facilitates numerous programs for faculty and staff, such as new faculty programing, mid-career peer mentorship and coaching programs, new academic unit head onboarding & leadership development, and the UO Leadership Academy. Sierra is committed to supporting UO's goal to create a flourishing community. Originally from the faculty in the Department of Human Physiology, Sierra continues to value and design inclusive and interactive learning experiences that build community while helping participants to learn and grow.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Peter Hopsicker

Penn State University
DEO Liaison since 2026



Associate Vice Provost

Faculty Affairs

pmh12@psu.edu

Peter Hopsicker currently serves as Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at Penn State, a role he assumed in 2025. He oversees promotion and tenure processes across all academic units and provides strategic leadership in policy implementation, strategic planning, data utilization, and initiatives that support faculty success across the entire University. His portfolio also includes oversight of sabbaticals, endowed and distinguished professorships, and the faculty exit process. Prior to joining the Office of Faculty Affairs, Peter served as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Associate Dean for Research and Sponsored Programs at Penn State Altoona (2020–2025; interim beginning in 2019).

## Lisa Mauer

Purdue University
DEO Liaison since 2019



Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs
Provost Office

mauer@purdue.edu

Lisa Mauer joined the provost's office as associate vice provost for faculty affairs in 2019. In this role, she provides leadership for initiatives that support faculty recruitment, hiring, retention, development, and success at all career stages. Mauer is a professor of food science, a member of the Whistler Center for Carbohydrate Research, and was the director of the Center for Food Safety Engineering for 10 years.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Petra Christmann

Rutgers University-New Brunswick

DEO Liaison since 2025



Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Office of the Provost

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Dr. Christmann is the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at Rutgers University-New Brunswick and Director of the Rutgers Center for Faculty Success. Working closely with campus, school and department leaders she provides strategic leadership in faculty recruitment, retention, mentoring, and development. She oversees a variety of university-wide programs focused on professional growth, leadership preparation, and faculty satisfaction and plays a pivotal role in shaping and implementing a strategic vision for faculty development. Prior to taking on this role in July 2025 she held administrative positions at Rutgers Business School as Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs and Research and as Chair of the Department of Management and Global Business.

## Kerri Johnson

UCLA

DEO Liaison since 2026



Associate Vice Chancellor for Faculty Development

Academic Affairs and Personnel

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Kerri L. Johnson is a Professor in the Departments of Communication and Psychology. Prior to joining AAPO as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Faculty Development, she served two terms as Chair of the Department of Communication and as the Associate Dean of Research for the Social Sciences for 2022-23. During her time as Chair, she established the Philanthropic Board of Visitors for the Department of Communication; established a doctoral program; began new efforts to engage alumni, increasing philanthropic giving by more than 400%; and secured endowments for several lectures and awards. Professor Johnson also initiated a Social Science Division partnership with Disney Research.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Donna Garcia

USC

DEO Liaison since 2024



Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development
Office of the Provost

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Donna Garcia is the Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development at USC. She brings over 20 years of expertise in higher education, primarily in academic and faculty affairs administration. Donna has focused on leading key initiatives under the Provost's office. Her responsibilities include overseeing the university's process for academic program review, faculty development programs such as Dean Onboarding, Department Chair Initiative, mentorship development for newly tenured associate professors, awards and recognition. Donna has integrated her extensive education and training into empowering and providing support to faculty leaders.

## Deepa Rao

University of Washington

DEO Liaison since 2025



Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Development
Office for Academic Personnel and Faculty
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Deepa Rao, Ph.D., M.A. is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington, Seattle. She is currently the Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Faculty Development at the University of Washington Her professional interests are in implementing and disseminating effective behavioral interventions to improve mental health, reduce stigma, and help people function better at work and home.

# DEO LIAISONS 2026

## Kelly Conforti Rupp

University of Wisconsin-Madison
DEO Liaison since 2023



Assistant Vice Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs
Office of the Provost

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Kelly Conforti Rupp is the Assistant Vice Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She plans and facilitates leadership development opportunities for faculty, staff, and department chairs. She also supports faculty recruitment and retention initiatives. In her spare time she is a certified life and leadership coach who helps people find greater purpose and joy in their lives and careers.

## Michael Tessel

University of Chicago
DEO Liaison since 2026



Assistant Provost

Office of the Provost

tessel@uchicago.edu

As Assistant Provost since 2023, Mike supports the advancement, development, and well-being of faculty and academics at the University of Chicago. Before this, he led UChicago's graduate student career and professional development services for nine years. Mike did postdoctoral research at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He earned his PhD in cancer biology from Northwestern University, and his AB in biological sciences from the University of Chicago.

# BIG TEN ACADEMIC ALLIANCE STAFF

## Charity Farber

Big Ten Academic Alliance



Director

Leadership Institute

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Charity Farber has been with the Big Ten Academic Alliance since 2008. With each role she has held, she has continued to build on her commitment to strengthening academic collaboration and advancing leadership development. She now leads the newly stablished Leadership Institute team, dedicated to advancing faculty leadership across the consortium. Charity is responsible for the strategic design, delivery, and facilitation of programs that prepare faculty for leadership roles and foster collaboration among the member institutions. In addition to leading the Leadership Institute, Charity also facilitates the collaboration of one of the Big Ten Academic Alliance's core groups, the Vice Provosts for Faculty Affairs.

## Laney Staehlin

Big Ten Academic Alliance



Program Manager

Leadership Institute

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Laney Staehlin joined the Big Ten Academic Alliance in 2025 as the Program Manager for the Leadership Institute. She leads the Department Executive Officers (DEO) program, overseeing its planning and execution to support leadership development across the consortium. Laney also serves as the primary liaison for program participants and hosts universities, ensuring clear communication and seamless experience across all Leadership Institute initiatives. She manages a broad range of logistics to ensure the smooth and effective delivery of programs and events. In addition, Laney contributes to the strategic planning and ongoing refinement of program content in collaboration with the Director and campus partners.