

University of Idaho

NEW FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS, 2009-10

This listing includes information on new members of the faculty/administration and was compiled by the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President, September 15, 2009.

ADMINISTRATION

Helen Albertson-Ploucha, Associate Dean and Senior Instructor of Law (B.S., 1981, Mankato State; J.D., 1997, Temple). Office: Law 101 Phone: 885-4088

Professor Albertson-Ploucha comes to the University of Idaho as the new Associate Dean for Students and Administration after having served as Assistant Dean of Admissions at Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University since 2005.

M. Duane Nellis, President and Professor of Geography (B.S., 1976, Montana State; M.S., 1977, Ph.D., 1980, Oregon State). Office: Admin 105 Phone: 885-6365

Dr. Nellis comes to the University of Idaho from Kansas State University where he served most recently as Provost since 2004. Prior to that, he served for seven years as dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences at West Virginia University.

Carmen Suarez, Director of Human Rights, Access and Inclusion (B.A., 1980, M.A., 1983, Ph.D., 2007, Southern Illinois, Carbondale). Office: Admin 104 Phone: 885-4285

Dr. Suarez joins University of Idaho after having most recently served as Director of the Office of Diversity and Equity at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. Prior to that she served as Assistant Dean for the School of Law Career Services at Southern Illinois.

Lawrence Young, Department Head and Associate Professor of Conservation Social Sciences. (B.S., 1978, M.S., 1980, Brigham Young; Ph.D., 1989, Wisconsin, Madison). Office: CNR 19M Phone: 885-7977

Dr. Young most recently served as Assistant Director for Service-Learning and Internships, Career and Professional Planning at the University of Idaho. Prior to that, he served as Senior Consultant with M&R Strategic Services in Washington, DC and Executive Director of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance.

INTERNAL CHANGES IN DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATORS

Wudneh Admassu	Acting Chair, Departments of Chemical and Materials Engineering, College of Engineering
Donald Blacketter	Term Dean, College of Engineering
Kathy Browder	Acting Associate Dean, College of Education
Ralph Budwig	Acting Director, Boise Engineering, College of Engineering
John Crepeau	Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering
Gregory Donohoe	Acting Chair, Department of Computer Science, College of Engineering
Jerry McMurtry	Interim Dean, College of Education
Richard Nielsen	Chair, Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering
Larry Stauffer	Senior Associate Dean, College of Engineering
Barry Swanson	Interim Department Head, Bi-State School of Food Science, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

THEATRE

Christopher DuVal, Assistant Professor of Theatre (B.A., 1994, California State, Fullerton; MFA, 1998, California, Irvine). Office: Shoup 228 Phone: 885-6903

Professor DuVal served as Associate Fight Director for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and is a recognized instructor of stage combat.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

AGRICULTURAL AND EXTENSION EDUCATION

Allison Touchstone, Senior Instructor of Agricultural and Extension Education (B.S., 1995, M.S., 1997, Idaho). Office: Boise Center, Room 440 Phone: 208-364-4543

Professor Touchstone comes to the University of Idaho from the Idaho Division of Professional-Technical Education where she served as Program Manager for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

PLANT, SOIL AND ENTOMOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Aurelio Briones, Assistant Professor of Plant Soil and Entomological Sciences, (B.S., 1985, M.S. 1992, University of the Phillippines, Los Baños; Ph.D., 2002, Hokkaido University, Japan). Office: Ag Science 239 Phone: 885-0136

Dr. Briones comes to the University of Idaho from the University of Michigan where he served as a Research Fellow in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Sanjay Gupta, Assistant Professor of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences, (B.S., 1982, M.S., 1984, Ph.D., 1997, Kanpur University, India). Office: Kimberly R&E Station, Kimberly Phone: 208-423-4691

Dr. Gupta comes to the University of Idaho from the University of Minnesota where he served as a Research Associate in the Department of Horticultural Sciences.

Joseph Kuhl, Assistant Professor of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences (B.S., 1994, Iowa State; M.S., 1998, Ph.D., 2000, Wisconsin). Office: Ag Biotech 103 Phone: 885-7123

Dr. Kuhl comes to the University of Idaho from the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Subarctic Agricultural Research Unit where he served as a Research Geneticist.

Oliver Neher, Assistant Professor of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences (Horticultural Engineer, 2001, University of Applied Sciences, Germany; Ph.D., 2008, Montana State). Office: Twin Falls R&E Center, Twin Falls Phone: 208-736-3633

Dr. Neher comes to the University of Idaho from Montana State University where he served as a graduate research assistant in the Department of Plant Pathology.

Erik Wenninger, Assistant Professor of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences (B.S., 1999, Toledo; M.S., 2001, Idaho State; Ph.D., 2005, Massachusetts).
Office: Twin Falls R&E Center, Twin Falls Phone: 208-736-3625

Dr. Wenninger comes to the University of Idaho from Fort Pierce, Florida, where he served as a postdoctoral research associate at the USDA-ARS laboratory.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Sarah Baker, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Animal Science (B.S., 2002, M.S., 2005, Idaho). Office: Custer County Extension, Challis Phone: 208-879-2344

Professor Baker comes to the University of Idaho from the Idaho Beef Council in Boise, Idaho, where she served as Program Director.

Lydia Clayton, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Horticulture (B.S., 2004, M.S., 2008, Idaho). Office: Nez Perce County Extension, Lewiston Phone: 208-799-3096

Professor Clayton has served as Farm Manager for Soil Stewards Organic Farm as well as Sustainable Agriculture Assistant for the Department of Small Farms, both at the University of Idaho.

Lance Ellis, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Livestock and Crops (B.S., 2004, Brigham Young; M.T.D., 2009, Idaho State).
Office: Fremont County Extension, St. Anthony Phone: 208-624-3102

Professor Ellis comes to the University of Idaho from the private sector where he served in the area of horticulture most recently as Landscape Estate Director and in livestock and crop production as a ranch owner.

Katie Hoffman, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Family and Consumer Science (B.S., 2006, M.S., 2008, Idaho). Office: Lemhi County Extension, Salmon Phone: 208-756-2815

Professor Hoffman comes to the University of Idaho from the Lemhi County Department of Weed Control where her area of focus was community education, publications and news releases.

Lauren Hunter, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Crops (B.S., 2006, M.A., 2008, Appalachian State). Office: Blaine County Extension, Hailey Phone: 208-788-5585

Professor Hunter comes to the University of Idaho from Appalachian State University where she spent the last two years teaching undergraduate classes.

Kirstin Jensen, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Health and Nutrition (B.S., 1994, M.A., 1999, Pacific Lutheran). Office: Idaho County Extension, Grangeville Phone: 208-983-2667

Professor Jensen comes to the University of Idaho from West Valley/Central Valley School District where she taught grades K-12 in various subject areas.

Jennifer Jensen, Assistant Professor and Extension Educator of Agriculture and Community Development (B.S., 1997, West Virginia; M.S., 2004, Idaho).

Office: Boundary County Extension, Bonners Ferry Phone: 208-267-3235

Professor Jensen held a teaching assistantship while completing her master's degree at the University of Idaho as well as other positions in the private sector of the horticultural industry.

Amanda Kent, Extension Instructor of 4-H Youth Development (B.S., B.A., 2007, Idaho).

Office: Blaine County Extension, Hailey Phone: 208-788-5585

Professor Kent comes to the University of Idaho from the Idaho School District 25 in Pocatello, where her responsibilities included 3rd through 6th grade elementary instruction in classical violin technique.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Daniele Tonina, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering (BS., 2000, M.S., 2000 University of Trento, Italy; Ph.D., 2005, Idaho). Office: Boise Center, Room 340L Phone: 208-364-6194

Dr. Tonina joins the faculty having most recently served as a Visiting Scholar for the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Idaho.

Michael B. Lowry, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering Department (B.S., 2002, Brigham Young; M.S., 2004, Ph.D., 2004, Washington). Office: Engr. Physics 115B Phone: 885-0139

Dr. Lowry served as a Research Engineer at the Institute of Transport Economics, Oslo, Norway prior to coming to the University of Idaho.

COLLEGE OF LAW

Anastasia Telesetsky, Associate Professor of Law (B.A., 1993, Vanderbilt; M.A., 1997, California, Santa Barbara; J.D., 2000, California, Berkeley; L.L.M., 2009, British Columbia).

Office: Law 207 Phone: 885-7510

Prior to joining the University of Idaho and completing her LL.M. at University of British Columbia, she worked at Briscoe, Ivester & Bazel, LLP in San Francisco.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

GEOGRAPHY

John Abatzoglou, Assistant Professor of Geography (B.S., 2000, California, Davis; Ph.D., 2006, California, Irvine). Office: MCL 409 Phone: 885-6239

Dr. Abatzoglou comes to the University of Idaho from San Jose State University where he was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Meteorology.

Tim Frazier, Assistant Professor of Geography (B.A., 2002, Tennessee; M.S., 2005, Ph.D., 2009, Pennsylvania State). Office: MCL 405B Phone: 885-6238

Dr. Frazier recently completed his Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University and is a specialist on impacts of climate change on hurricane associated storm surges and other climate change impacts.

COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CONSERVATION SOCIAL SCIENCES

Yen Le, Research Assistant Professor of Conservation Social Sciences (B.A, 1995, National Economics University, Vietnam, Ph.D., 2005, Idaho). Office: CNR 17D Phone: 885-2585

Dr. Le joins the University of Idaho from National Economics University in Hanoi, Vietnam, where she worked as an instructor on tourism management and economic impact of tourism industry.

FOREST RESOURCES

Philip Higuera, Assistant Professor of Fire Ecology (B.A., 1998, Middlebury; M.S., 2002, Ph.D., 2006, Washington). Office: CNR 204B Phone: 885-6024

Dr. Higuera comes to the University of Idaho with postdoctoral research experience in paleoecology labs at the University of Illinois and Montana State University where he worked on fire regimes in Colorado and Alaska.

RANGELAND ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

Kelly Crane, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist of Range Management (B.S., 1990, Idaho; M.S. 1994, Ph.D., 2002, Wyoming). Office: Twin Falls Research & Extension Center Phone: 208-736-3610

Professor Crane comes to the University of Idaho from Prineville, Oregon where he was owner and principal consultant of Frontier Natural Resource Consulting.

COLLEGE OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Brian Cleveley, Senior Instructor of Virtual Technology and Design (B.S., 1983, Manitoba; B.S. Arch, 1986, M. Arch, 1987, Idaho). Office: AAN 114

Professor Cleveley was formerly the Computer Studio Director and an adjunct faculty member in the Virtual Technology and Design Program.

FACULTY AT LARGE

AIR FORCE

Captain Paul Brewer, Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies (B.A., 2002, Maryland; M.B.A., 2005, Wright State). Office: 404 Kruegel Hall, Pullman Phone: 335-5598

Captain Brewer comes to us from the staff of the Air Force Research Laboratory in Rome, New York.

Major Theodore Unzicker, Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies (B.A., 1995, Central Washington; M.S., 2002, Webster). Office: 404 Kruegel Hall, Pullman Phone: 335-5598

Major Unzicker joins us from The NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany.

ARMY

Major Jay Gardner, Professor of Military Science, (B.S., 1998, Alaska, Fairbanks; MBA, 2006, Webster). Office: Memorial Gym B34 Phone 885-6528

Prior to coming to the University of Idaho, Major Gardner was the Executive officer and Operations officer (S3) with an artillery battalion at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma and was also deployed twice to Iraq in his 20 year military career.

NAVY

Commander Mark Roemhildt, Assistant Professor of Naval Science (B.S., 1991, Wisconsin, Madison; M.S., 1999, Naval Post Graduate). Office: Navy 102 Phone: 885-2171

Commander Roemhildt comes to us from the staff of the Pacific Fleet Headquarters in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and has proudly served in the Navy for 17 years that has literally taken him around the world.

Captain Sean Hennessy, Assistant Professor of Naval Science (B.S., 2003, Idaho). Office: Navy 102 Phone: 885-2171

Captain Hennessy comes to us from the Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 464 at the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) New River at Jacksonville, North Carolina and has proudly served for 18 years in the Marine Corps.

SSGT Ira J. Wilkie, Assistant Marine Officer Instructor of Naval Science. Office: Navy 102 Phone: 885-2171

SSGT Wilkie comes to us from the Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 3 MCAS, Miramar, California and has proudly served in the Marine Corps for 12 years.