New Faculty & Lecturers
2012–2013

Office of External Affairs, August 2012
Vicky Santos, Director
Adriene C. Simon, Art Design Specialist

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Tom Aulino
Department of Theatre, Assistant Professor

Aulino holds a BS in theatre from Northwestern University and an MFA in performance pedagogy from the University of Pittsburgh. He has worked as a professional actor, director, and teacher and has taught Shakespeare at the Steppenwolf Theatre School (Chicago) and Rutgers University (Camden).

Skip Horack
Department of English, Assistant Professor

Horack holds graduate degrees from Florida State University and the University of New Orleans. He is an accomplished author and was a Jones Lecturer in Creative Writing at Stanford University, where he was also a Wallace Stegner Fellow.

Matthew Hoch
Department of Music, Assistant Professor

Hoch earned his bachelor of music in vocal performance, music education, and music theory from Ithaca College; his masters of music in vocal performance and music history from the Hartt School; and his doctorate of musical arts in vocal performance and literature from the New England Conservatory.

Jennifer H. Johnson
Department of Political Science, Lecturer and Internship Director for the Health Services Administration Program

Johnson holds an MA in public administration and a BS in health services administration from Auburn University. She is a licensed nursing home administrator and served as an assistant nursing home administrator in Decatur, AL.

Keetje Kuipers
Department of English, Assistant Professor

Kuipers, a recent Wallace Stegner Fellow in Poetry at Stanford University, earned her BA at Swarthmore College and her MFA at the University of Oregon. She will be teaching upper-level and graduate courses in creative writing and poetry.

Jennifer Lockhart
Department of Philosophy, Assistant Professor

Lockhart received her bachelor’s degree in maths and philosophy from St. John’s College, Oxford and his PhD in philosophy from the University of Chicago. He works mainly in the history of analytic philosophy.

Evelyne Bornier
Department of Foreign Languages & Literature, Assistant Professor

Bornier holds a Diplôme d’Études Approfondies from the Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon, France and a PhD from Louisiana State University. Her research focuses primarily the francophone literatures and cultures of the Maghreb, the Middle East, and the Caribbean. She publishes poems and essays under the pseudonym, Leïla F. Asma.

Anna Chiafèlè
Department of Foreign Languages & Literature, Assistant Professor

Chiafèlè received her BA in foreign languages (English and German) at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Brescia, Italy, her MA in Italian literature at the University of Virginia, and her PhD in Italian studies at the University of Toronto. Her research interests include irony, parody, metafiction, and anti-detective novels.

William Franko
Department of Political Science, Assistant Professor

Franko received his PhD in political science from the University of Iowa. His research focuses on the policy consequences of political and economic inequalities, political behavior, state and local politics, and political participation. Franko is coauthor of the forthcoming book, Digital Citizen: The Internet and the Geography of Opportunity (Oxford University Press).

Jennifer Lockhart
Department of Philosophy, Assistant Professor

Lockhart received her bachelor’s degree in maths and philosophy from St. John’s College, Oxford and his PhD in philosophy from the University of Chicago. He works mainly in the history of analytic philosophy.

José McDowell
Department of Art, Assistant Professor & Biggin Gallery Coordinator

McDowell received her MA in media studies from the New School University and an MFA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her video and installation work focuses on the intersections of intimate experience and digital life.

Eleni Knudsen McLean
Department of History, Assistant Professor

Knudsen McLean, an assistant professor of modern Europe, received her BA from the University of Virginia and her MA and PhD from Yale University. Her most recent research focuses on the important role of racism and youth culture in Fascist Italy.

Sacha Pence
Department of Psychology, Assistant Professor

Pence received her BS from Northern Michigan University, MS from Northeastern University, and her PhD from West Virginia University. Her research focuses on treatment integrity, behavioral assessment and treatment, and skill acquisition.

Jennifer Robinson
Department of Psychology, Assistant Professor

Robinson received her PhD in experimental psychology from Case Western Reserve University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in psychiatric neuroimaging. She studies the interplay of emotion, cognition, and stress, with a special interest in post-traumatic stress disorder.

Alexander Richter
Department of Economics, Assistant Professor

Richter obtained his PhD in economics at Indiana University. His primary research interests are in the fields of monetary and fiscal policy, with an emphasis on entitlement programs and the macroeconomic consequences of fiscal uncertainty.

Nicolletta Serenata
Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, Lecturer

Serenata obtained her bachelor’s degree from the Complutense Università degli Studi di Bari and her master’s degree in Editoria, Comunicazione Multimediale e Giornalismo at Sapienza-Università di Roma. She worked for WebTv as a communication and technology coordinator, and in 2010 she joined the Italian Graduate Program at the Ohio State University where she obtained a master’s degree.

Gilad Sorek
Department of Economics, Assistant Professor

Sorek, a native of Israel, joined the Department of Economics in the summer of 2012. He received his PhD from Tel-Avivi University in 2009, and before coming to Auburn he was a visiting assistant professor at the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York. His research interests are in technological progress, health economics, and economic growth.

Jane Teel
Department of Communication & Journalism, Lecturer

Teel has held positions at numerous academic institutions and recently completed her PhD. Her research focuses on the relationship between nonverbal immediacy behaviors and student learning styles. She most recently served as an academic advisor in the Department of Communication and Journalism.