new faculty 2014
Welcome to North Dakota State University, an institution recognized as a leading student-focused, land-grant, national research university. You will find a unity of purpose on this campus that few other organizations enjoy.

NDSU is a very special place. We are a Top 100 research university, offering an exceptional educational experience to a purposefully sized student body of degree-seeking students with appropriate academic credentials for success. There are few, if any, other land-grant universities that conduct research at our quality and quantity, but remain student focused.

The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education has named NDSU to the elite “Research University/Very High Research” category, which represents the 108 most successful private and public universities in the United States. NDSU is the first and only institution in North Dakota to receive the prestigious categorization. For fiscal 2013, our annual research expenditures were more than $150 million.

Aside from basic research, our highly successful Research and Technology Park continues to expand in size and productivity as we apply our research to the creation of new technologies, businesses and jobs.

We have a national and international presence, and students come to us seeking a quality education at an affordable price. In fall 2014, NDSU had 14,747 students enrolled in its undergraduate, professional and graduate programs. Our international student enrollment stands at 1,059. We have 2,283 graduate students.

NDSU has more than 100 buildings on campus and takes pride in the quality of its facilities. The university has a major presence in Fargo’s historic and vibrant downtown area – architecture and landscape architecture programs are housed in both Renaissance Hall and Klai Hall; Renaissance Hall also is home to the visual arts department; and Richard H. Barry Hall holds the College of Business and Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics.

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension Service are integral parts of the university, and the university remains deeply committed to its land-grant traditions. NDSU participates in the Tri-College University consortium with neighboring Minnesota State University Moorhead and Concordia College.

NDSU has a strong national reputation for excellence in education, research and service. It clearly has a positive and lasting impact on the lives of students and the vitality of our community, state, region and nation. Thank you for joining our university family and making NDSU even stronger.

Sincerely,
President Dean L. Bresciani
RICK AXELSON  
**Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Director of the Center for Social Research**

Axelson earned his doctorate in 2001, Master of Science in 1990 and Master of Arts in 1994, all from the University of Arizona, Tucson; he received his bachelor’s degree in 1979 from the University of Minnesota. Axelson has written 16 peer-reviewed publications. He is a member of the American Evaluation Association and the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations.

ALYSSA BACKES  
**Simulation Manager and Lecturer for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health**

Backes earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2004 from Medcenter One College of Nursing, Bismarck, N.D. Backes is a member of the International Nursing Association of Clinical Simulation and Learning. She has been published twice in the Clinical Simulation in Nursing Journal.

ASHLEY BAGGETT  
**Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies**

Baggett earned her doctorate in 2014, Master of Arts in 2010, and bachelor’s degree in 2003, all from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. Baggett received the Outstanding Feminist Activist award in 2012.

JESSICA BAUER  
**Adviser and Lecturer in the College of University Studies**

Bauer earned her Master of Education in 2010 from NDSU and her bachelor’s degree in 2008 from Concordia College, Moorhead.

SARA BERGER  
**Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health**

Berger earned her Master of Science in Nursing in 2005 from the University of Mary, Bismarck, and bachelor’s degree in 1993 from Medcenter One College of Nursing, Bismarck. Berger is certified with the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a medical-surgical nurse since 1995. She has been published in Nurse Educator. Berger is a member of the American Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau. She received the 2007-08 Medcenter One College of Nursing Faculty of the Year, as well as the 2014 Bismarck and Mandan Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Teacher in Higher Education Award.

SARAH BOONSTOPOPPEL  
**Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Political Science**

Boonstoppel earned her doctorate in 2014, Master of Arts in 2005 and bachelor’s degree in 2002, all from the University of Maryland, College Park. Boonstoppel is a member of the American Society of Criminology, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association. She has presented at national conferences, including the National Institute of Justice conference, and has co-written a chapter in “The Oxford Handbook of Juvenile Crime and Juvenile Justice.”
AMANDA BROOKS  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Brooks earned her doctorate in 2006 from the University of Wyoming, Laramie, and bachelor’s degree in 1998 from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City. Brooks has two patents and 30 publications. She is a member of the Rocky Mountain Bioengineering Symposium board, the Controlled Release Society, Association for Women in Science, Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture, National Editorial Board and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research proceedings.

KELLY BUETTNER-SCHMIDT  
Associate Professor in the Department of Nursing
Buettner-Schmidt earned her doctorate in 2013 from the University of Mexico. She earned her master’s degree in 1996 and bachelor’s degree in 1983, both from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. She has published several articles and co-wrote a chapter in “Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care.” Buettner-Schmidt received the 2005 Lillian Wald Award from the American Public Health Association’s Public Health Nursing Section. She began teaching in 2000, serving as nursing department chair for four years at Minot State University. She has been awarded numerous grants for tobacco control policy, and has served as a principal investigator and consultant. Buettner-Schmidt’s research interests include public health policy and public health nursing.

JEFFREY BUMGARNER  
Department Head and Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Political Science
Bumgarner earned his doctorate in 2000 from the University of Minnesota; M.A.P.A. in 1990 from Northern Illinois University; and bachelor’s degree in 1988 from the University of Illinois. Bumgarner has written or co-written six books, as well as many articles and book chapters on criminal justice and public policy. His research interests include federal law enforcement, homeland security and police practices. Bumgarner is a licensed peace officer in Minnesota, and he has several years of experience as a deputy sheriff, federal agent and police chief.

JOHN BUNCHER  
Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics
Buncher earned his doctorate in 2010 and master’s degree in 2005, both from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. He received his Bachelor of Arts in 2003 from the University of Minnesota, Morris. Buncher has co-written 10 publications and is a member of the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers.

LEO BUTLER  
Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics
Butler earned his doctorate in 2000 and master’s degree in 1996, both from Queen’s University. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 1993 from the University of Ottawa. Butler is a member of the American Mathematical Society. He has written 25 papers in refereed mathematics journals and has served as a contributor to the open-source computer algebra package Maxima.
DONG CAO  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Cao earned his doctorate in 2012 and master’s degree in 2010, both from Michigan State University, East Lansing. Cao earned his bachelor’s degree in 2005 from Zhejiang University. He has been published in more than 30 Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) refereed journals and conference papers and has two awards for papers from the IEEE Industry Application Society International Profession of Communication Conference Committee. Cao received a presentation award from the Applied Power Electronics Conference and a poster award from Energy Conversation Congress and Exposition. He is a member of the IEEE Power Electronics Society.

DEBASREE CHATTERJEE-DAWN  
Assistant Professor of Practice in the Department of Geosciences  
Chatterjee-Dawn is a member of the Association of American Geographers and the Japanese Geoscience Union.

NILANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Ray Chaudhuri earned his doctorate in 2011 from Imperial College London, United Kingdom; Master of Technology in 2005 from Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; and Bachelor of Engineering in 2003 from North Bengal University, India.

YONGKI CHOI  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics  
Choi earned his doctorate in 2010 from the City University of New York; master’s degree in 2000 from Pusan National University, South Korea; and bachelor’s degree in 1998 from Dong-Eui University, South Korea. Choi is a member of the American Physics Society, American Chemical Society, Materials Research Society and Biophysical Society. He has written 18 publications, including book chapters. Choi has one patent, with another patent pending. He is a referee for numerous journals and has received several awards, including a graduate study abroad scholarship and a science fellowship.

SUSAN COOPER  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics  
Cooper earned her doctorate in 2005 and master’s degree in 2000, both from Queen’s University. She earned her bachelor’s degree in 1998 from the University of Regina. Cooper is a member of the American Mathematical Society, Association for Women in Mathematics, Canadian Mathematical Society and Mathematical Association of America. She has been published 11 times in refereed mathematical journals. Cooper has received three teaching awards from two universities and was the recipient of five conference grants. She co-edited the book, “Connections Between Algebra, Combinatorics, and Geometry.”
ANNE ELIAISON  
*Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health*

**DREW ESPESETH**  
*Academic Adviser and Lecturer in the College of University Studies*
Espeseth earned his Master of Education in 2012 and bachelor’s degree in 2010, both from NDSU. Espeseth is a member of the National Academic Advising Association.

**KRISTEN FELLOWS**  
*Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology*
Fellows earned her doctorate in 2013 from the University of Pennsylvania and bachelor’s degree in 2004 from the University of Florida. Fellows has co-written four articles or book chapters. She was a fellow in the Kolb Society.

**MELISSA HANSON**  
*Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health*

**SHEILA HEINERT**  
*Assistant Professor of Practice in the Department of Nursing*
Heinert earned her Master of Science in Nursing in 2014 and Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1994, both from the University of Mary, Bismarck. Heinert is a member of the American Nurses Association; Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses; and Sigma Theta Tau International.
MIYOUNG HONG
Instructor in the Department of Apparel, Design and Hospitality Management
Hong earned her bachelor’s degree in 2004 and master’s degree in 2006, both from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater.

BETH INGRAM
Provost and Professor in the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics
Ingram earned her bachelor’s degree with honors and distinction from the University of Iowa in 1981, and her doctorate from the University of Minnesota in 1986. During her career, Ingram has held the title of C. Woody Thompson Professor of Economics (2006-10) and Henry B. Tippie Professor (2010-14), both at the University of Iowa. Ingram’s research interests and publications have focused, among other things, on macroeconomics and econometrics. Her academic experience is highlighted by her stellar publication record, editorship of leading and influential journals in her field and more than $670,000 in National Science Foundation and university grants. Ingram is an award-winning educator, and her teaching repertoire includes undergraduate and graduate courses, mentoring students and faculty, and chairing thesis committees.

JESS JUNG
Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre Arts
Jung earned her Master of Fine Arts in 2011 from the Theatre School of DePaul University, Chicago, and bachelor’s degree in 2005 from Augsburg College, Minneapolis. Jung received the Drama League Director’s Project Fellowship. She is a company member at Young Playwrights’ Theatre in Washington, D.C., and an ensemble member at Forum Theatre in Maryland.

PAUL KELTER
Professor and Director of the Center for Science and Mathematics Education
Kelter earned his doctorate in 1980 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and his bachelor’s degree in 1976 from the City College of the City University of New York. Kelter has numerous publications, including three textbooks, one book and 70 refereed papers. He has presented at 220 professional seminars and has been the principal or co-principal investigator in $16 million in external grants. Kelter has received many honors and awards, including a fellowship with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Board of Trustees Professor at Northern Illinois University, University Distinguished Teacher/Scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign, Marie Foscue Rourk Professor at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, Distinguished Teacher ad perpetua at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Distinguished Teacher at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.
MEGHAN KIRKWOOD
Assistant Professor in the Department of Visual Arts
Kirkwood earned her master’s degree in 2011 from the University of Kansas, Lawrence; Master of Fine Arts in 2009 from Tulane University, New Orleans; Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2006 from the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence; and bachelor’s degree in 2004 from Grinnell College in Iowa. Kirkwood is a member of the Society of Architectural Historians, College Art Association, South African Visual Arts Historians, African Studies Associations, Arts Council of the African Studies Association and Society for Photographic Education. Kirkwood has had numerous publications on the contemporary South African photography and North Korean designed monuments in African nations. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including full fellowship artist residencies to the Vermont Studio Center, Isle Royale National Park and Buffalo River National Park; full fellowships for graduate study at Tulane University, University of Kansas and University of Florida; and travel and research funding awards for thesis and dissertation research.

WENDY KOPP
Associate Professor of Practice in the Department of Nursing
Kopp earned her master of Science in Nursing in 2004 from the University of Mary, Bismarck, and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1989 from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. Kopp is a member of the Gerontological Society of America and Sigma Theta Tau International, and she is American Nurses Credentialing Center board certified in gerontological nursing. She received the North Dakota Nurses Association Hero Award and is a mentor for the Facilitated Learning to Advance Geriatrics. Kopp also is an advisory committee member of the Health Resources Services Administration. She is a faculty member of the Champion Upper Midwest Geriatric Nursing Education Alliance and has been published in several journals.

CHARYS KUNKEL
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health

CHERYL LANTZ
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Lantz earned her doctorate in 2009 and master’s degree in 1997, both from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks; her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1991 from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City; and Diploma in Nursing in 1985 from MedCenter One School of Nursing in Bismarck. Lantz has three publications and was Teacher of the Year in 2002 at Dickinson State University. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, National League of Nursing and Midwest Nurse Researcher Society. She is a lifetime member of the International Parish Nurse Association.

KAREN LATHAM
Chair and Associate Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Latham earned her doctorate in 1992 from the University of Colorado, master’s degree in 1982 from the University of Minnesota and Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1977 from the University of North Dakota.
KATIE LYMAN  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences  
Lyman earned her doctorate in 2014 from the University of South Florida, Tampa; master’s degree in 2007 from Michigan State University, East Lansing; and bachelor’s degree in 2005 from Central College in Pella, Iowa. Lyman is a certified athletic trainer and a member of the Kinesio Taping Research Committee. Her research interests and publications have centered on Kinesio Tape and affective domains in applied health care professionals.

ADAM MARX  
Assistant Professor in the School of Education  
Marx earned his doctorate in 2014 from the University of Missouri, Columbia; and master’s degree in 2008 and bachelor’s degree in 2005, both from Ohio State University, Columbus. Marx was awarded the 2014 Outstanding Graduate Student at the University of Missouri. In 2012 and 2013, he was named the Distinguished Manuscript Author at the North Central American Association for Agricultural Education Research Conference.

TREVOR MCGUIRE  
Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics  
McGuire earned his doctorate in 2014 and master’s degree in 2010, both from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 2009 from New College of Florida, Sarasota. McGuire is a member of MENSA International, North American Scrabble Players Association and Astronomical League. He is a long distance cyclist and an Ironman competitor.

ANDREW MYER  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Political Science  
Myer earned his doctorate in 2010 and master’s degree in 2005, both from the University of Cincinnati. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 2004 from Saint John’s University. Myer is a member of the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. He has been published in numerous refereed journals and was co-editor of the book, “The Origins of American Criminology.” Myer received the Alec Chiv Memorial Award for engaging students in scholarly activities.

KEERTHI NAWARATHNA  
Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Nawarathna earned his doctorate in 2005 from the University of Houston and bachelor’s degree in 1999 from the University of Peradeniya in Sri Lanka. Nawarathna is a member of the American Physical Society, Biophysical Society and Southern California Microscope Society. He has had 33 peer-reviewed and conference publications published. He also has two patents and one invention disclosure.

SHARON NELSON  
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Christie Obritsch
Assistant Professor for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Obritsch earned her Master of Science in Nursing in 2005 and Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1992, both from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Chelsea Pace
Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre Arts
Pace earned her Master of Fine Arts in 2014 from Arizona State University, Phoenix, and bachelor’s degree in 2011 from Binghamton University in New York. Pace is a member of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Association of Theatre Movement Educators, Networks of Ensemble Theatres and the Contemporary Performance Network. She received the AriZoni Award for Choreography, best new script.

Tom Peters
Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Sciences
Peters earned his doctorate in 1990 from NDSU, master’s degree in 1986 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and bachelor’s degree in 1983 from the University of Minnesota. Peters is a member of the Weed Science Society of America, American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists, North Central Weed Science Society, Council for Agriculture Science and Technology and American Hosta Society. He is a past president and fellow of the Weed Science Society of America.

Janet Riggins
Lecturer in the Department of Nursing
Riggins earned her Master of Science in Nursing in 2013 from Arizona State University, Phoenix; Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1980 from Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and her registered nurse designation in 1978 from St. Luke’s Methodist Hospital Professional School of Nursing.

Wanda Rose
Associate Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Rose earned her doctorate in 2006 from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks; Master of Science in Nursing in 1991 from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota; and Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1975 from the University of North Dakota. Rose is a member of the American Nurses Association, North Dakota Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau Xi Kappa at Large.
HEIDI SAARINEN
Associate Professor of Practice in the Department of Nursing
Saarinen earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice and Family Nurse Practitioner Certification in 2010 and Registered Nurse in 2005 from NDSU. Saarinen is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society.

MARY SMITH
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health

TRISH STROM
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Strom earned her Master of Education from NDSU and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1982 from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. She is a member of the National Association of Neonatal Nurses, a licensed professional counselor and a certified nurse manager leader. Strom received the Spirit of Nursing Award from Sanford Health in 2010.

LYDIA TACKETT
Assistant Professor in the Department of Geosciences
Tackett earned her doctorate in 2014 from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, and her bachelor’s degree in 2007 from Temple University, Philadelphia.

TERI UNDEM
Associate Director of Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience in the Department of Pharmacy Practice
Undem earned her bachelor’s degree in 1992 from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. She is a member of the North Dakota Pharmacists Association and American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

LINDSEY UNTERSEHER
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health
Unterseher is a member of North Dakota Nurses Association and American Nurses Association.
MELISSA VOSEN CALLENS
Assistant Professor of Practice in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Vosen Callens earned her doctorate in 2010, master’s degree in 2006 and bachelor’s degree in 2003, all from NDSU. Vosen Callens is a member of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education. She has published three book chapters, one textbook chapter, three journal articles and two book reviews.

JINHUI WANG
Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Wang earned his doctorate in 2010 from Beijing University of Technology. His research interests include low-power, high-performance and variation-tolerant integrated circuit design; 3-D integrated circuits and exploratory data analysis methodologies; and thermal issue solution in very large scale integration. He has more than 80 publications and six patents in the emerging semiconductor technologies.

TYLER WOTTRICH
Assistant Professor in the School of Music

Wottrick earned his Doctor of Musical Arts in 2013 and Master of Music in 2011, both from Stony Brook University. He earned his Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts, both in 2009, from the University of Minnesota. Wottrick is an alumnus of Ensemble ACJW, which is an ensemble-in-residence at Carnegie Hall. He received the Emerson String Quartet’s Ackerman Prize for Chamber Music, and he is a faculty member of the Banff Center master classes.

CHERYL WYNN
Assistant Professor of Practice for NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health

Wynn is a member of North Dakota Nurses Association and American Nurses Association, as well as, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

GUIPING YAN
Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology

Yan earned her doctorate in 2006 from Washington State University, Pullman. She earned her master's degree in 1994 and bachelor’s degree in 1991, both from Northeast Agricultural University in China. Yan made the first discovery of cereal cyst nematode species in North America. She has been involved with the development of various types of molecular procedures for identifying and quantifying root-lesion nematodes, and in-depth research on genetic resistance and cultural practices to improve nematode control. Yan is a member of the American Phytopathological Society and Society of Nematologists. She has published 20 peer-reviewed journal articles in plant pathology, including 12 papers on nematology.
HUOJUN YANG
Assistant Professor in the Department of Construction Management and Engineering
Yang earned his doctorate in 2012 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

MICHAEL YELLOW BIRD
Director of Indigenous Tribal Studies and Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Yellow Bird earned his doctorate in 1994 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Master of Social Work in 1980 from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Bachelor of Social Work in 1979 from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.
This booklet is designed to introduce NDSU’s new faculty to the institution and community, and has been produced by the Office of the Provost.