Business

James Parrish
Assistant Professor
Department of I.T. & Decision Sciences

Dr. Parrish’s primary research areas focus on disclosure of sensitive information via social networking sites (SNS) and what causes the spread of disinformation over SNS. He also studies the factors that contribute to the effectiveness of cybersecurity personnel in offensive roles.

Suman Niranjan
Assistant Professor
Department of Marketing, Logistics & Operations Mgmt.

Dr. Niranjan researches multi-echelon inventory & supply chain optimization, empirical research pertaining to supply chain and logistics, multi-method simulation optimization with application to logistics and supply chain, distracted driving, applied multi-variate statistical analysis, and predictive analytics applied to healthcare and supply chain problems.

Education

Ryan Olson
Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology, Health Promotion & Recreation

Dr. Olson’s research centers on Behavioral Neuroscience and Exercise Psychology, with an emphasis on implementing behavioral interventions to improve cognitive, cardiovascular, and mental health outcomes.

Colleen Eddy
Associate Professor
Department of Teacher Education and Administration

Dr. Eddy’s research seeks to provide pathways to STEM Education for both teachers and students. Her research is focused on mathematics instruction and curriculum development, and teacher effectiveness and engagement in middle and secondary schools.

Engineering

Qing Yang
Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science & Engineering

Qing’s research interests include the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicular system, network security and privacy.

Han Wen
Assistant Professor
Department of Hospitality & Tourism Mgmt.

Dr. Wen’s research includes foodservice management, food safety and food allergies in restaurants, food safety risk communication, and hospitality education.

Merch., Hospitality & Tourism
**Health and Public Service**

**April Becker**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Behavior Analysis  

Dr. Becker’s research centers on the role of brain systems in the support of lawful behavioral principles and the potential of manipulating these systems to improve learning and recovery from brain injury. She uses rodent models for basic and translational investigations and applies these principles to rehabilitation research in humans with brain injuries.

**Elyse Zavar**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Emergency Mgmt. & Disaster Science  

Dr. Zavar’s research examines long-term community recovery from disasters. She focuses on the ways communities reconstruct the built and natural environment to reduce risks to future hazards, including how communities design and use post-buyout open space. Additionally, she explores how communities commemorate such tragedies as part of the long-term recovery process.

**Visual Arts and Design**

**Barbara Trippeer**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Fashion Design  

Trippeer’s design specializations focus on exploring the limits of traditional sportswear design development and production, via emerging technologies and alternative materials. She explores how the balance between sustainable manufacturing and emerging technologies impacts the apparel industry.

**Christopher Meerdo**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Studio Art  

Meerdo is an artist, educator, and activist whose interests lie in photography, emerging technologies, and social equity. His work has been exhibited internationally in cities such as: Berlin, Chicago, Reyjkavik, and Maastricht.
Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

**Lu Liang**
Assistant Professor  
Department of Geography & Environment

Dr. Liang’s research is focused on developing novel geospatial monitoring, mapping and modeling approaches to study how the human-environment interactions are manifested in land surface changes.

College of Music

**Rebecca Geoffrey-Schwinden**
Assistant Professor  
Department of Music History, Theory & Ethnomusicology

Dr. Geoffroy-Schwinden’s research studies how music is valued at the margins of the Western political economy, particularly women. To pursue poorly documented musical experiences, she applies sonically based, digital approaches to historical inquiry.

**Sara Champlin**
Assistant Professor  
Department of Advertising

Dr. Champlin’s research focuses on the use of strategic communication principles to improve public wellbeing. She is especially interested in health literacy and the ways communication practitioners facilitate the public’s seeking and understanding of health information.

**Quincy Davis**
Assistant Professor  
Department of Jazz Studies

Dr. Davis is a world-renowned jazz drummer with a keen interest in teaching (esp. high school students) about the important contributions that jazz and its innovators have made to our great American heritage. Band performance, aural presentations, listening and audience participation are methods he employs for understanding this art form and its relevance to society today.
Han Hao  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Mathematics*

Dr. Hao’s research focuses on genetic association tests and disease risk prediction models. Her recent work studies how genetic variants and environmental factors lead to disease subgroups through a hierarchical causal inference model.

Yanyan He  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Mathematics*

Dr. He is interested in uncertainty quantification (UQ), including model correction based on physical constraints, parametric uncertainty analysis, non-probabilistic uncertainty modeling, and the application of UQ techniques to various disciplines, such as biology, engineering, and oncology.

Hao Yan  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Chemistry*

Dr. Yan’s research focuses on non-ambient, non-equilibrium and extreme environments. He studies molecules and solids under high mechanical pressure, determining structure-function relationships in conventionally inaccessible regimes. He studies efficient catalysts, energy-converting devices and functional materials enduring harsh conditions, and the search of exoplanetary life forms.
The UNT D.C. Research Fellows program was established in 2019 to bring a selected cadre of faculty to visit Washington D.C. and meet Federal research agency program directors. Our first cohort is predominately tenure-track faculty members nominated by Deans and Associate Deans of research.