

## **Faculty Promoted or Granted Tenure effective September 2023**

**The Office of the Provost is pleased to announce that thirty-six UMass Dartmouth faculty members have been promoted or awarded tenure during the 2023-2024 academic year. These accomplished faculty members excel as teachers, mentors, scholars and researchers. Please join us in congratulating them.**

### **PROMOTED TO COMMONWEALTH PROFESSOR**

#### ***College of Engineering***

##### **Hong Liu, Electrical and Computer Engineering**

Dr. Hong Liu's promotion to Commonwealth Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (UMassD) is a recognition of her distinguished contributions over three decades.

Dr. Liu joined UMassD in 1990 after completing her Ph.D. in Computer Science at New York University – School of Engineering with an award-winning dissertation on Internet Design. Since then, she has disseminated her research in peer-reviewed journals/conference proceedings, patent, and book chapters. She has acquired funding from federal, state, and private sources. Her national/international recognitions include IEEE Senior Member, Distinguished Achievement Award from US Chinese Association for Science and Technology, two Best Paper Awards from IEEE International Symposium on Technologies for Homeland Security 2015 and 2021.

Dr. Liu made exceptional commitment and contribution to educating and mentoring students. She developed courses in computing disciplines from Freshman to PhD levels and programs including Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Cybersecurity. Her PhD advisees became university professor or industry leaders. Her students won awards at events/conferences including best paper awards, presentation awards, competition awards, and Cybersecurity Best Practice, to name a few. Recently, a student she mentored in Cybersecurity Education Club she founded and directs won Challenge Coin at DEFCON 2022.

Dr. Liu's leadership had extraordinary impact in advancing UMassD mission. Her advocating female engineering faculty/students earned her Outstanding Women Award. She played a pivotal role in elevating UMassD from Predominantly Undergraduate Institution to Tier 1 National Research University. She founded Internet Security Lab in 2001, renamed IoT Security Lab, a hub that attracts students/scholars across the nation and abroad. She serves on Cybersecurity Education and Training Consortium, a partnership uniting industry, academia, and government in New England to address workforce gaps and foster diversity. Her 20+ year investments in cybersecurity research/education/outreach set a foundation for UMassD's designation of NSA/DHS National Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity.

## ***School for Marine Science & Technology***

### **Changshen Chen, Fisheries Oceanography**

Dr. Chen's promotion to Commonwealth Professor of Fisheries Oceanography at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (UMassD) is a recognition of his distinguished contributions over two decades.

Dr. Chen joined the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology as a tenured professor in 2001 and was appointed the Montgomery Charter Chair Professor in 2014. Prior to joining UMass Dartmouth, he was an assistant lecturer (1983-1984) and lecturer (1984-1986) in the Department of Marine Meteorology and Oceanology at the Ocean University of China, an assistant scientist in the Department of Oceanography at Texas A&M University (1992-1994), and an assistant professor (1994-1998) and a tenured associate professor (1998-2001) in the Department of Marine Sciences at the University of Georgia. Dr. Chen earned a Diploma and M.S. degree in Marine Meteorology from Ocean University of China in 1979 and 1983, respectively, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Physical Oceanography from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) Joint Program in 1989 and 1992, respectively.

Dr. Chen's research spans numerical ocean modeling and empirical evaluation of ocean circulation and the impact of these on biological/physical interactions, including fisheries modeling and offshore wind renewable energy programs. As part of this effort, he and his team have created several models for modeling ocean circulation that are regularly used by NOAA, industry, and fellow scholars.

Dr. Chen has an impressive record of publications, listing 140 peer-reviewed articles in the last 12 years. His productivity earned him a spot on the list of Top Earth Scientists. His grantsmanship is equally impressive, bringing in excess of \$14M of awards from top granting agencies such as NSF, DOE, NASA, and others. Finally, Dr. Chen has received a number of awards and recognitions, including scientific papers, professional recognition as a scholar, and for teaching. Dr. Chen is recognized as a frontier scientist and leading-edge researcher who developed modeling tools that have had real world impact, such as his team's model of the 2011 Japanese tsunami and its environmental impact.

Dr. Chen's leadership in the scientific community is more than the number of scholarly articles he has authored, but more in his approach to research and his willingness to share his advanced modeling systems with the world. His Marine Ecosystem Dynamics Modeling laboratory has put SMAST and UMass Dartmouth on the international map as a world leader in ocean modeling.

## **PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR**

### ***College of Arts & Sciences***

#### **Mark Paige, Public Policy**

Mark Paige earned his J.D. (with honors) and Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has been at UMass-Dartmouth since 2011 and is currently Chair of the Department of Public Policy. He is an expert in education law, with a particular focus on collective bargaining, unions, and special education. His work has appeared in top law reviews, peer reviewed journals, and in the opinion pages of popular media outlets, including the Dallas Morning News and the Los Angeles Times. Prior to arriving at UMass, he was an attorney in private practice representing school districts in collective bargaining negotiations and litigation before federal and state courts. He started his career in public policy as a chief of staff on Beacon Hill after graduating from Tufts University magna cum laude.

### ***Charlton College of Business***

#### **Zhengzhong Shi, Decision & Information Sciences**

Dr. Shi received his B.S. in Process Control in Chemical Engineering and M.S. in Computer Simulation in Chemical Engineering from Zhejiang University in 1989 and 1994, respectively, and his Ph.D. in Manufacturing Management from the University of Toledo in 2001. He served as an Assistant Professor at North Dakota State University from 2001-2005. Dr. Shi was appointed as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Decision and Information Sciences at UMass Dartmouth in 2005 and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in 2009.

Dr. Shi has taught numerous courses at the graduate and undergraduate level, including several core courses to the major. He is dedicated to keeping his course material current through the use of “state of the art technologies.” This effort garnered Dr. Shi the Chancellor’s Innovation in Teaching award two years in a row. Dr. Shi’s area of scholarship examines information systems strategic management and outsourcing, including open-source software project communities, cloud computing and social media.

## ***College of Engineering***

### **Mehdi Raessi, Mechanical Engineering**

Dr. Raessi received a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from University of Tehran in 1998, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of Toronto in 2003 and 2008, respectively. He also held a post-doctoral appointment at Stanford University from 2008 – 2010. Dr. Raessi joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering (MNE) at UMass Dartmouth as an Assistant Professor on September 1, 2010 and was appointed to Associate Professor with tenure on September 1, 2016.

Dr. Raessi teaches cornerstone courses in the MNE major, notably undergraduate senior level courses and undergraduate and graduate electives in Energy and Thermal Systems. In addition to being an excellent teacher, Dr. Raessi is also a laudable advisor to Ph.D. students, M.A. students, and talented undergraduates.

The bulk of Dr. Raessi's scholarship centers around computational studies of multiphase flows, including fully resolved simulations of gas-liquid flows, with an eye to practical applications in medicine and energy. Dr. Raessi has filed patent applications for some of his work and is highly active in his grantsmanship, collectively receiving over 550K in extramural funding from agencies such as the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation. It is also worth noting that much of this funding has gone to support graduate and undergraduate students.

Dr. Raessi is an active leader in both his Department and University. At the Department level, he has been on the ABET Committee, an important factor in the Engineering College's accreditation. He has served on the College Academic Council and the Faculty Senate Technology Committee. He led the Department Curriculum Committee for several years and ensured alignment of curriculum for ABET review. He was the College of Engineering Co-Director for the EAS Ph.D. program and is a member of the Leadership Board for the Center for Scientific Computing and Data Science Research.

## ***School of Law***

### **Shaun Spencer**

Shaun Spencer joined the School of Law as an Assistant Professor and Director of Legal Skills in 2011. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2017 and has served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs since 2017. Prior to joining the School of Law, he taught as a Lecturer at Harvard Law School, where he earned his LL.M, and as an Adjunct Professor at Boston College Law School, where he earned his J.D.

Associate Dean Spencer has studied the intersection of law, technology, and privacy for two decades. His research examines how law fails to keep pace with technological and social change in domains such as consumer protection, intelligence collection, and criminal investigations.

His most recent long-term project is a series of four articles studying how companies use our data to manipulate the choices we make and the speech that we share. One article examines the history of manipulative marketing practices and the increasingly personalized approaches made possible as manipulation moves online. Another examines the likely constitutional challenges to consumer privacy legislation in light of the Supreme Court's decades-long

project of increasing the degree to which the First Amendment constrains economic regulation. A third explores the role of speech intermediaries in First Amendment doctrine and the significance that social media platforms' speech intermediary role may play in First Amendment challenges to social media platform regulation. The final article considers an alternative approach to social media platform regulation involving mandatory disclosures that would help users make better choices about how they engage with social media, and which would be subject to a more forgiving First Amendment test than the leading platform regulation proposals.

## **TENURE & PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

### ***College of Arts & Sciences***

#### **Erin Krafft, Crime & Justice Studies**

Dr. Erin Krafft (she/her) is now Associate Professor of Crime and Justice Studies and Director of the Urban Studies program, as well as Assistant Director at the Office of Faculty Development. In her teaching and research, she focuses on transnational feminisms (with a particular focus on the U.S. and the Soviet and post-Soviet spheres), feminist translation studies, authoritarianism and totalitarianism in transnational contexts, and nonviolent pedagogies and practices. Her recently published chapters and articles include "Marxist Criminology Abolishes Lombroso, Marxist Criminology Abolishes Itself," "Punk Prayers versus Neoliberalism: Pussy Riot and the Fractured Feminist Family Tree," "Translation, or Transliteration? 'Gender' Troubles in Russia," and "Paradoxical Sexual and Gender Politics: Projects and Narratives of Russia's Far-Right," and she is the co-author (along with CJS Professor Emerita Susan Krumholz and Jo-Ann Della Giustina of Bridgewater State) of *Gender, Crime, and Justice: Learning Through Cases*. In 2021, along with Drs. Viviane Saleh-Hanna and Tammi Arford (CJS), she was awarded a \$150,000 grant through the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education's Innovation Fund, to establish a Wholistic Justice Certificate Program, and along with Dr. Heather Turcotte (CJS) leads student service-learning and research trips to Plenitud PR, an educational permaculture farm in Puerto Rico. She is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Feminist Scholarship*, and is currently co-editing a Special Issue on the topic of Translating Transnational Feminisms, working alongside UMass Dartmouth graduate Caroline de Souza ('22). In her spare time, she is usually reading, hiking, birdwatching, building furniture, or lounging with her cats.

#### **Tania Perez Cano, Global Languages & Cultures**

Dr. Pérez Cano received her B.A. in Spanish and her M.A. in Latin American Literary Studies from the University of Havana, Cuba, in 1996 and 2005, respectively, and her Ph.D. in Hispanic Literatures and Cultures from the University of Iowa in 2013. She served as a Teaching Assistant and Presidential Fellow at the University of Iowa from 2007-2012; as a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse from 2012-2013; and as a Visiting Lecturer from 2013-2014, and then Lecturer from 2014-2017, at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Pérez Cano was appointed as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Foreign Literature and Languages at UMass Dartmouth in 2017.

Dr. Pérez Cano has taught a total of 30 courses, including nine new preparations since her tenure. She has also been an active advisor in the Department of Global Languages and Culture, advising 55 majors and minors in the Spanish program. Additionally, she has also

invested herself in the community and extracurricular activities with the students, such as helping to organize student focused events such as Arts Nights and the UNITYFEST.

Dr. Pérez Cano's research focuses on the visual representation in comics and graphic novels of Latin American, Latino/a and Latinx communities in the United States and Cuban and Cuban-American cultures. She has taken a leadership role and worked on the development of a minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies. She has also contributed to the Department curriculum development, a Staff Recruitment Committee, and represented the Department at student recruitment events. Dr. Pérez Cano has recently joined the Humanities Academic Council and has served for three years on the highly active Senate Student-Faculty Academic Affairs Committee.

## **Charlton College of Business**

### **Zhenzhen (Tina) Sun, Accounting & Finance**

Zhenzhen (Tina) Sun is the Associate Professor of Finance in the Charlton College of Business at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Her research has been on asset pricing, risk management, and institutional investments. She published in outstanding peer reviewed academic journals including *Management Science*, *Review of Asset Pricing Studies*, *Journal of Corporate Finance*, *Journal of Banking and Finance*, *Financial Analysts Journal*, *Financial Review*, *Pacific-Basin Finance Journal*, and others.

Tina is particularly interested in the trading behavior of passive institutional investors, such as insurance companies. Many of her works examine how such trading affects security pricing and liquidity. Tina received the University Scholars/Research Fellows Award from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth in 2023, the Outstanding Reviewer Award from *China Finance Review International* in 2021, the finalist of Financial Management Association Best Paper in investment in 2012, among others. She serves as a referee of *Journal of Banking and Finance*, *Journal of Corporate Finance*, *Pacific-Basin Finance Journal*, *China Finance Review International*, and several other academic journals.

### **Hongkang Xu, Management & Marketing**

Dr. Hongkang Xu stands out as an esteemed instructor and researcher in accounting. He commenced his academic journey with a master's degree in accountancy from George Washington University and furthered his education with a Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Since 2013, Dr. Xu has been enlightening students in various universities, teaching diverse accounting courses such as financial accounting, managerial accounting, intermediate accounting, advanced financial accounting, and accounting information systems. His passion for teaching is complemented by his profound research work, featured in renowned accounting journals like the *European Accounting Review*, *Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance*, *Accounting and Business Research*, and *Accounting Horizons*, among others.

Dr. Xu's dedication and contributions to accounting have earned him notable recognitions, including the Best Paper Award from the American Accounting Association in 2018 and the Provost Fellowship Award in 2021. He is also a valued member of the editorial boards of several distinguished journals, including the *International Journal of Accounting, Auditing, and Performance Evaluation*, the *Managerial Auditing Journal*, and the *Journal of Forensic Accounting Research*.

With his extensive knowledge, experience, and accolades, Dr. Xu continues to foster a rich learning environment, inspiring students and peers in the multifaceted world of accounting.

## ***College of Engineering***

### **Ruolin Zhou, Electrical & Computer Engineering**

Dr. Zhou received her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Dalian Jiaotong University, China, in 2003, and her M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Wright State University in 2007 and 2012, respectively. She served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Western New England University from 2012-2018, and was promoted to Associate Professor there in 2018. Dr. Zhou was appointed as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at UMass Dartmouth in 2018.

Dr. Zhou has taught five different courses, primarily at the sophomore and junior levels. Dr. Zhou proactively adapted a novel tutoring pedagogy in her classes as an effective approach to enhancing students' learning performance. She is invested in her pedagogy and follows best practices for supporting student learning. She has also been an excellent advisor and mentor. In addition to undergraduate advising for the major, she has supervised two Ph.D. students and four M.S. students. She has recruited undergraduates to help with projects she has received grant funding for, and one group of students won a prize for best team in the 5G SDR challenge.

Dr. Zhou's research spans several overlapping topics, including Software Defined Radio (SDR) based intelligent radio frequency (RF) systems, AI in dynamic spectrum access and management, hardware security, wireless communications, and data analytics. She has also been highly successful in her grantsmanship, winning two PI awards, one from ONR and NSF, totaling almost \$500K. Further, she is a Co-PI on a NAVSEA STTR grant and an ONR MUST project. Her funding does not just help UMass Dartmouth's reputation and sponsored grants efforts, but also helps provide support for students. So far, her grants have supported graduate students for 8.5 semesters.

## ***College of Visual & Performing Arts***

### **Rose Mary Botti-Salitsky, Art & Design**

Dr. Botti-Salitsky received her B.S. in Interior Design from Drexel University in 1987, her M.A. from Rhode Island School of Design in 1991, and her Ph.D. in Instructional Design from Capella University, School of Education, in 2005. She served as an Assistant Professor at Mount Ida College, School of Design, from 1991-1997, then as Associate Professor with tenure from 1997-2004, and was promoted to Full Professor in 2004. Dr. Botti-Salitsky joined UMass Dartmouth as a Full-Time Lecturer in 2018, and was appointed as a tenure-track Associate Professor in the Department of Art and Design in 2020. Dr. Botti-Salitsky brings years of teaching experience and curriculum development from her previous appointment at Mt. Ida College and their Interior Design Department.

Dr. Botti-Salitsky's scholarship focuses on programming and research, resiliency, ergonomics in design, and the licensure and evolution of the profession of Interior Design. Given that interior design literally is where we live and work, her scholarship is inherently applied and

interdisciplinary. Dr. Botti-Salitsky has also lent her weight and professional experience to a wide range of legislative and government activities. In her capacity as an expert in the field, she has testified to promote local legislative bills and served as an advisor on a number of boards.

Dr. Botti-Salitsky is active in grantsmanship. Locally, she received funding for two design efforts; one for the Carney Academy Library in New Bedford, and one for the Meeting Street School. She has received significant professional acknowledgment, being nominated for, and as a finalist for an ASID National Design Luminary Award. Further, she was inducted as a Fellow by the American Society of Interior Designers, an honor extended to members who have made significant contributions to the field at all levels, community and industry.

## **PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE TEACHING PROFESSOR**

### ***College of Arts & Sciences***

#### **Diana Barrett, Biology**

Dr. Barrett received her B.S. in Biology from UMass Amherst in 2009, her M.S. in Biology/Marine Biology and Ph.D. in Marine Science and Technology from UMass Dartmouth in 2012 and 2016, respectively. She served as a Part-Time Instructor at UMass Dartmouth from 2012-2016, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Biology in 2016.

Dr. Barrett is a conscientious and caring teacher, who connects well with her students, but insists on rigor. She teaches several of the critical required courses for the major. Dr. Barrett is an active advisor and contributes to moving students toward completion.

Dr. Barrett is active in Department, College, and University Service. Her service ranges from departmental DEI and recruitment efforts, serving on the College and University Curriculum Committees, and the Faculty Senate.

#### **Brian Blanchette, Chemistry & Biochemistry**

Dr. Blanchette received his B.S. in Biochemistry and M.S. in Chemistry from UMass Dartmouth in 1997 and 2000, respectively, and his Ph.D. in Analytical Biochemistry from UMass Lowell/Dartmouth in 2002. He joined UMass Dartmouth as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2009.

Dr. Blanchette has been a long-time asset to the Chemistry Department, teaching a wide range of courses and an impressive volume of students. Dr. Blanchette is an active advisor and contributes to moving students toward completion.

#### **Eric Casero, English & Communication**

Eric Casero is an associate teaching professor at UMass-Dartmouth. His teaching areas of specialty include first-year English and literature. In addition to his teaching, Eric is an academic advisor, a member of the Faculty Federation executive board, and an amateur singer/songwriter. He lives in New Bedford with his wife and two cats.



### **Meghan Fair, English & Communication**

Professor Fair received her B.A. from Skidmore College, and her M.A. from UMass Boston. She was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth in the Department of English in 2015.

Professor Fair's primary teaching efforts have been in Freshmen English sequence, required composition courses for all UMass Dartmouth students. Her efforts to include technology in her coursework garnered her the Provost's Award for Teaching and Learning with Technology in 2018. In addition to advising ENL majors, Professor Fair also helps in advising CJS majors and in the STAR center.

### **Tracy Harrison, English & Communication**

Professor Harrison received her B.A. in English from Salva Regina College in 1989, and her M.A. and A.B.D. in English from the University of Rhode Island in 1991 and 1995, respectively. She served as a Part-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth from 2007-2008, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of English in 2008.

Professor Harrison has taught a wide array of courses in the ENL major, with an emphasis on ENL 200 which fulfills the University Studies 3A requirement and the CAS curriculum requirement for literature. Professor Harrison is a diligent advisor to students in English and Communication major.

### **Patrice Hartnett, Psychology**

After teaching part-time at several schools in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, Patrice has been a full-time faculty member at UMass Dartmouth since 2008. She primarily teaches courses in developmental psychology. She is the transitional advisor for the psychology department and an advisor to the UMass Dartmouth chapter of Psi Chi. Patrice earned a B.S. in animal behavior from Bucknell University and a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Pennsylvania.

### **Jamie Lawton, Chemistry & Biochemistry**

Dr. Lawton received her B.S. in Chemistry from Stonehill College in 2004, and her Ph.D. in Chemistry from Northeastern University in 2010. She served as a Part-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth from 2014-2015, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2015.

Dr. Lawton teaches introductory Chemistry courses for University Studies and upper level required courses for the major. Dr. Lawton is an active advisor and contributes to moving students toward completion. Dr. Lawton is active in service ranging from Departmental retention and recruitment efforts, as well as more recently being involved in the Pilot Supplemental Instruction Program.

## **Anne Liberty, Chemistry & Biochemistry**

Professor Liberty received her B.S. and M.S. in Chemistry from UMass Dartmouth in 2002 and 2009, respectively. She served as a Part-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth from 2003-2009, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2009.

Professor Liberty teaches introductory level Chemistry courses, along with lab sections, and upper-level required courses for the major. Professor Liberty is an active advisor and contributes to moving students toward completion.

Professor Liberty was actively involved in Department, College, and University Service. This service ranged from departmental recruitment and assessment efforts to serving as advisor to the Chemistry Club.

## **Adriano Marzullo, Mathematics**

Dr. Marzullo received his B.S. in Mathematics from the University of ROMA TRE in 2003, and his M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Missouri in 2007 and 2010, respectively. He joined UMass Dartmouth as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics in 2016.

Dr. Marzullo shows a deep passion for teaching mathematics that is informed by his own high level of achievement in mathematics, and his commitment to helping all students to feel a sense of belonging to a wider, supportive, mathematical community, from beginning College Algebra classes through more advanced classes in Calculus and Probability. Dr. Marzullo's commitment to developing a sense of community among students of mathematics led to his leadership initiative in establishing a Math Circle at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, now registered through the American Institute for Mathematics' Math Circle Network. Dr. Marzullo actively serves as an advisor to students majoring in Mathematics.

Dr. Marzullo is actively involved in Department, College, and University Service, ranging from departmental assessments and recruitment efforts, curricular revisions to University Studies, and University recruitment efforts.

## **Jacqueline O'Dell, English & Communication**

Dr. O'Dell received her Ph.D. in English from Tufts University in 2014 and was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer to the Department of English & Communication in January 2015.

Since joining UMass Dartmouth, Dr. O'Dell has taught courses in the First-Year English program, as well as literature courses that focus on contemporary American literature and digital culture. She has also contributed to redeveloping the FYE curriculum to focus more prominently on information literacy.

Since joining the UMass Dartmouth faculty, Dr. O'Dell has published in the peer-reviewed journals *New American Notes Online* (2017), *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction* (2019), and *Genre: Forms of Discourse & Culture* (2023).

### **Christine Piva, Chemistry & Biochemistry**

Dr. Piva received her B.S. and M.S. in Chemistry from UMass Dartmouth in 2008 and 2010, respectively, and her Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Rhode Island in 2015. She was hired at UMass Dartmouth as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2013.

Dr. Piva teaches introductory courses for the Chemistry major and first year Chemistry course for nursing majors. Dr. Piva is an active advisor and contributes to moving students toward completion.

Dr. Piva is active in Department, College, and University Service ranging from Departmental retention and recruitment efforts, and she was the chief architect of the Summer Bridge component offered by the Chemistry Department.

### **Melissa Silvia, Chemistry & Biochemistry**

Professor Silvia received her B.S. in Chemistry from Rhode Island College in 1989, and her M.S. in Chemistry from UMass Dartmouth in 1994. She served as a Part-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth from 1996-2007, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2007.

Professor Silvia primarily teaches a number of introductory level courses for the Chemistry major which often serve as gateway courses for a number of other majors. Additionally, Professor Silvia is an active advisor and works with a cohort of Chemistry majors through their experience from department entry to graduation. Professor Silvia is active in Department, College, and University Service ranging from retention and recruitment efforts, the Honors and Awards Committee, the STEM Building Committee, and Faculty Advisor to the golf team for seven years.

### **Yibin Wei, Chemistry & Biochemistry**

Dr. Wei received his B.C.E in Fine Chemical Engineering from Beijing Technology and Business University in 1997, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Shanxi University in 2002 and 2005, respectively. He served as a Part-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth from 2010-2011, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2011.

Dr. Wei's dedication to teaching and focus on creating supportive structures and assignments where students can optimize their learning. Dr. Wei was actively involved in Department, College, and University Service, primarily through maintaining standards and serving on committees for the safety and use of chemicals and computers within the Department.

### **Benjamin Winslow, Biology**

Dr. Winslow received his B.S. in Biology from the University of New Hampshire in 2004, and his Ph.D. in Biology from Wesleyan University in 2011. He served as a Part-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth from 2010-2011, and then was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer in the Department of Biology in 2012.

Dr. Winslow teaches primarily introductory level Biology courses, which serve both the major and several other science majors, engineering, and pre-med students. He has also recently developed honors courses for this content area, building out the ability for biology students to be more easily incorporated into the Honors college. Dr. Winslow serves as advisor to a cohort of biology majors every year. Prof. Winslow meets his advisees one on one every semester, and he works with them to assist with course selection as well as academic and career advising.

Dr. Winslow is actively engaged in Department, College, and University Service service as the Lab Coordinator for BIO 131/132, and on the department student awards, curriculum, and assessment committees. He has served on the Student Faculty Academic Affairs Committee and also serves on the University Curriculum Committee.

### **Yuan Zhang, English & Communication**

Yuan Zhang received her PhD degree in English Studies with concentration in linguistics from Illinois State University in 2013 and joined the Department of English and Communication faculty of UMass Dartmouth in 2016. She teaches FYE and introduction to CAS courses, and advises first-year Psychology students. Prior to UMass Dartmouth, she taught intensive English and first-year English writing courses at Southern New Hampshire University and Miami University. Her major areas of research interest are politeness studies, L2 pragmatics, conversation analysis of intercultural communication, and second language writing. Her work on how international teaching assistants manage rapport with American undergraduates in their teaching was published in *Journal of Politeness Research: Language, Behavior, Culture*. She has recently collaborated with other FYE colleagues on an OER textbook of Argument Analysis. She is also interested in teaching general linguistics, sociolinguistics, and politeness research courses.

### ***Charlton College of Business***

#### **Dawn Gupta, Accounting & Finance**

Dawn M. Gupta, CPA, MBA is an Associate Teaching Professor, who has been with the University since 2014. Besides being a full-time faculty member for the Accounting and Finance Department in the Charlton College of Business, she is a Certified Public Accountant in private practice. Dawn attended Wheaton College and received her MBA from UMass Dartmouth.

#### **Christopher Jacobsen, Accounting & Finance**

Professor Jacobsen holds a BS in Accounting and an MBA from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. He is a Certified Public Accountant. He joined UMassD as a full-time lecturer in the Department of Accounting & Finance in Fall 2016. Professor Jacobsen has been extremely active in advising undergraduate students. He has the largest number of advisees in the Department of Accounting & Finance and regularly advises over seventy

Accounting students per semester. He also serves as thesis advisor to a number of honor students. He has also been active in course improvements and curriculum/new course development.

Professor Jacobsen has had a very prominent presence at the college level with service. He is faculty advisor for Beta Alpha Psi, a national honor society for Accounting, Finance, and MIS students. The UMD chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, under his leadership, has received Superior Chapter Awards in three out of the last four years. He has invited many professionals and UMD alumni from accounting firms including KPMG and Ernst & Young (members of the Big4) to the Beta Alpha Psi events. Many students acquired internships and jobs through these events.

## ***College of Nursing & Health Sciences***

### **Ali Hasaba, Medical Laboratory Science**

Dr. Hasaba received a B.S. in Biology and a B.S. in Medical Technology from P.V. Texas A&M University in 1986 and 1988, respectively, and his M.S. in Medical Laboratory Science and Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from Northeastern University in 1996 and 2002, respectively. He was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth in the Department of Medical Laboratory Science in 2015.

Since hired in 2015, Dr. Hasaba has taught a variety of courses from sophomore through senior level MLS courses and at the graduate level in BMB 520 (Quantitative Physiology). His teaching within the Department has primarily been in clinical chemistry and biochemistry (MLS 241/242, 341/342, 443/444). However, the Department Chair reports since Dr. Hasaba has a specialty certification in Hematology, he has also been called upon to assist in hematology courses as needed. Dr. Hasaba is dedicated to educating and preparing MLS students for practice in their role as a newly graduated Medical Laboratory Scientist.

Dr. Hasaba has served on a variety of committees, primarily at the Department level, including the MLS Committee on Advanced Standing and Curriculum Committee. He also volunteers to give guest lectures in the MLS senior seminar and has been instrumental in arranging the annual loan of a Radiometer blood gas analyzer for the seniors in clinical biochemistry laboratory.

### **James March Mistler, Medical Laboratory Science**

James (Jimi) March Mistler, ABD, MS, MLS(ASCP)CM – Associate Teaching Professor, Program Director, Online Co-Coordinator, Department of Medical Laboratory Science, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Jimi is the Program Director and an Associate Teaching Professor for the MLS department at UMD. He is also the Online Co-Coordinator for the Online MLT to MLS degree program. He is a graduate of UMD for both his Bachelor's (BS in Medical Laboratory Science) and Master's (MS in Biotechnology) degrees. Jimi is currently a PhD candidate at UMASS Boston studying LGBTQ+ health inequities, healthcare access in the LGBTQ+ community, and medical school curricula across the U.S., a topic that he cares strongly about. Jimi is personally invested in diversity, equity, and inclusion, serving on multiple committees within academic and professional organizations. He currently teaching clinical chemistry and biochemistry and

senior seminar in the MLS department, as well as healthcare and society, which touches on the social determinants of health, for Online and Continuing Education.

Previously, Jimi was the Lead Medical Technologist in the Medical Department Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. While here, he was in charge of microbiology and was the Point-of-Care Coordinator for the Medical Department. Jimi was also responsible for CAP and Joint Commission accreditation for all laboratory departments as well as test validation, SOPs, and training.

Jimi is active in the Medical Laboratory Science field, being a member of American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science and American Society of Clinical Pathology, on the national and local levels, and is a member of and past-chair of ASCLS's Diversity Advocacy Council. He is a paper reviewer and site visitor for NAACLS self-studies and accreditation. Jimi has written chapters for chemistry and microbiology textbooks, is a current editor for Clinical Chemistry: Principles, Techniques, and Correlations (JBL publishing), and has published manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals. He has presented at several laboratory science and laboratory science education meetings over the last several years.

### **Melody O'Donnell, Medical Laboratory Science**

Professor O'Donnell received her B.S. in Clinical Laboratory Science and M.S. in Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology from UMass Dartmouth in 2007 and 2014, respectively, and is working on her Ph.D. in Philosophy from Walden University. She was hired as a Full-Time Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth in the Department of Medical Laboratory Science in 2014.

Professor O'Donnell has taught courses from Sophomore level to Senior level in Medical Laboratory Science Department, as well as the MLS contribution to University Studies Area 2 requirement.

Professor O'Donnell is actively involved in Department, College, and University Service. A large part of this service includes clinical placements of MLS students and connecting Department resources to outside resources. Professor O'Donnell has also been active in Departmental Curriculum Development, review of students eligible for advanced standing, and students in the Honors college within the MLS major.

### **Nathan Rubien, Medical Laboratory Science**

Nathan (Nate) Rubien MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> is an Associate Teaching Professor at UMass Dartmouth in North Dartmouth, MA. He obtained his undergraduate degrees in Microbiology (2009) and Medical Lab Science (2011), as well as a graduate degree in Medical Laboratory Science (2019), from The University of Rhode Island in Kingston RI. After working in the clinical laboratory setting for six years, Nate was hired as an Assistant Teaching Professor at UMass Dartmouth in 2015. He was promoted to Associate Teaching Professor in 2023.

His research has included a focus on nanotechnology, antimicrobial resistance, and biofilms. This research was conducted with colleagues and partnership from Brown University, The University of Rhode Island, and the VA Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island.

Nate currently teaches Principles of Microbiology (MLS 301), Medical Microbiology (MLS 313), and Clinical Microbiology I and II (MLS 401 and MLS 411). He teaches both in-person students and students enrolled in the MLT-MLS Online Program and is a Certified Online Educator through the Online Learning Consortium.

## **PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN**

### **Bela Gupta, Technical Services**

Ms. Gupta has over two decades of experience as a multi-lingual cataloging librarian at the Library of Congress and has previously worked at Rutgers University, NJ. Presently she is the Associate Librarian and Division Head, Library Technical Services at the Claire T. Carney Library. Her work as the cataloging and metadata librarian entails analysis, creation, remediation, transformation, enhancement, and enrichment of metadata for physical, electronic, and digital resources. This work facilitates description, management, access, and retrieval of existing and new materials to users not only within our library community but also to the national and international online community. It also ensures better discoverability and worldwide publicity of library materials including faculty publications and materials both physical and electronic, published by our university's Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture. She represents the library at the Boston Library Consortium Heads of Resource Management Standing Committee.

Ms. Gupta holds two master's degrees each in library science and English literature. As the South Asia specialist and member of the American Library Association's Core Committee on Cataloging: Asian & African Materials, she has presented several reports for CONSALD (Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation) meetings. At the national and regional levels, the American Library Association Annual Conference as well as the Boston Library Consortium Forum, she has contributed to the equity, diversity, and inclusivity dialog by presenting on her work on the Library of Congress subject headings for tribes and marginalized communities of India. She looks forward to a future of a linked data ecosystem and to create an open global pool of shared data between library resources through her work in metadata creation and cataloging.

## **PROMOTION TO PROFESSIONAL TECHNICIAN II**

### **Jeffrey Beaudry, Civil & Environmental Engineering**

Jeffrey Beaudry joined the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEN) in 2014 as a Technical Associate and was appointed Professional Technician III in 2020. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from UMass Dartmouth in 2012 and 2014, respectively. Mr. Beaudry has served in critical instructional roles for the department and college, trained teaching assistants and contributed toward the success of faculty and students in the CEN department. In his roles as Technical Associate and Professional Technician he has maintained and supported teaching and research spaces in SENG, Violette and VRAD buildings. Mr. Beaudry has performed maintenance of equipment, managed chemicals and lab safety protocols, decommissioned obsolete equipment, maintained computers and trained new student researchers. He has also been responsible for overseeing and preparing CEN TAs for undergraduate laboratory courses.

### **Dapeng Li, Bioengineering**

Dr. Dapeng Li joined the Department of Bioengineering (BNG) in 2006 as a Postdoctoral Associate, was appointed a Research Associate in 2010, a Technical Associate in 2015 and a Professional Technician III in 2021. He received a B.S. degree in Chemistry from Shandong Normal University, China in 1992, a M.S. degree in Physical Chemistry from Peking University, China in 1995 and a Ph.D. in Textile Chemistry from University of California, Davis in 2004.

Dr. Li has served in critical instructional roles for the department, trained teaching assistants and contributed toward the success of faculty and students in the BNG department. In his roles as Technical Associate and Professional Technician he has managed and supported department teaching and research spaces which includes overseeing small shared equipment such as 3D printers and microscopes. At the university level, he has coordinated service and maintenance of shared research equipment and has assisted in managing the SEM core facility and training students and faculty. He has also been responsible for overseeing and preparing BNG TAs for undergraduate laboratory courses.