

Faculty Development Committee Annual Report, 2024-2025

Members:

Tim Wientzen, Chair - English

Pushkala Prasad - Management & Business/International Affairs

Monica Das, Chair - Economics

Joshua Ness – Biology

The year in summary:

The FDC met 12 times during the academic year. The Committee completed its regular business, which included:

- Review of nominations for and designating recipients of the three major faculty awards: The Phyllis Roth Distinguished Faculty Service Award, The Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship, and the Ralph Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- Review and award of Faculty Development Grants (fall and spring rounds), Emeritus Faculty Development Grants (fall and spring rounds), Faculty Initiative Research Grants, and Kress Family Creative Pedagogy Grant.
- Review and recommendation to the Office of the Dean of the Faculty awards for Full Year Sabbatical Leaves for 2025-26, Full Year Sabbatical Enhancement Awards for 2025-26, Semester Sabbatical Leaves for fall 2025, Semester Sabbatical Leaves for spring 2026.
- Review and award of Faculty-Student Summer Collaborative Research Grants and Schupf Scholar Research Grants
- Consultation (through Associate Dean of the Faculty) with the SGA regarding the selection of the faculty speaker for the 2023 Commencement ceremony.

The committee also made some recommendations to the Dean's office about Faculty Student Summer Research grants, including clarifications to the application and grant terms to help ease the administrative burden and make the applications easier to process for future iterations of FDC.

The Committee wishes to thank Janet Casey for her consultations and institutional perspective, Gina Hoefer for her management of the complexities of grant applications and budget details, and Debbie Peterson for her invaluable administrative support.

Incoming membership:

Monica Das, Chair - Economics

Joshua Ness – Biology

Caroline D'Abate - Management and Business

Eliza Kent - Religious Studies

Distinguished Faculty Service Award

von Allmen, Peter
Professor, Economics

Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship

Black, Barbara
Professor, English

The Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching

Mueller, Jenni
Associate Professor, Sociology

Faculty Development Grants – Fall Round

Baustian, Kathryn
Assistant Professor, Anthropology
Cypress Grove Cemetery #1 Recovery Project

Benzon, Paul
Associate Professor, English
Unbound Things: Shanzhai Lyric and Interference Archive

Biberman-Ocakli, Yelena
Associate Professor, Political Science
In a World Where States Have Genetic Weapons

Chatterjee, Debamalya
Assistant Professor, Biology
Impact of UV-B Mediated DNA-damage induced cell death on growth and development of corn plants

Day, Jenny
Associate Professor, History
The Queen of Communist China: The Life of Song Qingling

Ennis-McMillan, Michael
Associate Professor, Anthropology
Ethnographic research on humanitarian volunteers and asylum seekers in Paris

Johnson, Becca
Professor, Psychology
Serial Processing of Letters in Adults and Children

Kao, Chia-Ying
Visiting Artist-in-Residence, Dance
Borderland

Kim, Young

Senior Artist-in-Residence, Music

Travel Support for the Artist Residency at the University of Seoul in Korea

Klein, Jared

Artist-in-Residence and Technical Director, Theater

International Theater Exploration / Representation

Lagalwar, Sara

Professor, Neuroscience

Creating 3D culture models of human Spinocerebellar ataxia type 1 for drug screening

Lawson, Brian

Assistant Professor, Dance

A Field of Bloom and Hum: Costumes for Dance

Lee, Sang-Wook

Professor, Art

Exploring Nubi and Sasbiko: Traditional Techniques in Contemporary Fiber Art Installations on Ruined Traditional Architecture

Matheron, Aurelie

Assistant Professor, World Languages and Literatures

Speculating on the Future

Ocakli, Feryaz

Associate Professor, Political Science

Food Security Policy and Planning: Cross-Sectoral Perspectives

Park, Joowon

Associate Professor, Anthropology

Paper Bombs Over the DMZ

Peterson, Daniel

Associate Professor, Psychology

Fake news on social media: The effect of social endorsement cues on younger and older adults

Sargeant, Kieron

Assistant Professor, Dance

Merry Seat

Shankar, Mahesh

Associate Professor, International Affairs

Status Concerns and the Paradox of Indian Foreign Policy Near and Abroad

Swellander, Michael

Visiting Assistant Professor, World Languages and Literatures

Critical Translation Anthology: Cultural Journalism in Germany (1815-1848)

Wolin, Daniela

Visiting Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Mongolian-American Archaeological Project Mapping of Zorgoi Khairkhan

Yildiz, Murat

Assistant Professor, History

Let's Get Physical: How Istanbul's Muslims, Christians and Jews Created "The Ottoman World of Sport"

Faculty Development Grants – Spring Round

Biberman-Ocakli, Yelena

Associate Professor, Political Science

The Separation of Tech and State?

Breves, Jason

Professor, Biology

Molecular physiology of salmon development

Brueggemann, John

Professor, Sociology

Has Polarization Spilled Into Our Food? A Study of Partisan Food Preferences?

Chase, Tory

Visiting Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies and Sciences

Comparison of heavy metal biomagnification ascending reef tropic levels in the Caribbean Sea

Day-O'Connell, Jeremy

Associate Professor, Music

Cross-Cultural Music/Linguistics

Kao, Chia-Ying

Visiting Artist-in-Residence, Dance

Oishida Artist in Residence Program: Butoh Dance

Kim, Young

Senior Artist-in-Residence, Music

Summer Residency at Altenburger Music Academy in Austria

Lagalwar, Sara

Professor, Neuroscience

Targeting mitochondria: Pairing mitochondrial boosters with antioxidants to slow neurod

Lee, Sang-Wook

Professor, Art

Silent Battle (2025): Embroidery, AI and the Future of Human Identity

Lepkowska-White, Ela

Professor, Management and Business

Socially Responsible Venture of Fit Cake: Navigating International Expansion in the Health-Conscious Confectionery Industry

Li, Yueqi

Assistant Professor, Management and Business

The Role of Generative AI in Closing Auditor Person-Environment Misfit

Lindner, Andrew

Professor, Sociology

Has Polarization Spilled Into Our Food? A Study of Partisan Food Preferences?

Ocakli, Feryaz

Associate Professor, Political Science

Sustainability and Food Security in Vietnam

Park, Joowon

Associate Professor, Anthropology

Paper Bombs Over the DMZ, Yale University Korean War Collection

ParkeHarrison, Robert

Professor, Art

Precipice: Exploring Human Connection to Nature through Analog Photography

Possidente, Bernard

Professor, Biology

Biological Clock Function in a Mouse Model for Angelman's Syndrome

Rusenova-Ina, Boryana

Assistant Professor, Art

Visions and Wor(l)d's Traveling Exhibition Project

Sweeney, Sarah

Associate Professor, Art

Prints and Screens to Exhibit the project Photographs of My Deepfake Dad

Tinkle, Adam

Associate Professor, Media and Film Studies

All that's solid melts into (wiggling) air: Anarchaeoacoustic investigation and artist residency at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

Vavarella, Emilio

Assistant Professor, Media and Film Studies

Support for large-scale video production

Faculty Research Initiative Grants

Du, Wenlu

Assistant Professor, Computer Science

Learning Bipedal Motions on a Quadrupedal Robot in Challenging Environments

Hurst, Heather

Professor, Anthropology

The San Bartolo Murals Graphic Dictionary Database

Lee, Sang-Wook

Professor, Art

Preserving Textile Traditions: Collaborative Fiber Art Installations at the 2025 International Fiber Art Festival

Sattler, Paul

Professor, Art

Paul Sattler Solo Exhibition in Asheville, NC

Wuensch, Juliane

Assistant Professor, World Languages and Literatures

Archival Research on Nineteenth-Century Fairy Tales and German Women Writers

Kress Family Creative Pedagogy Grant

Beallor-Press, Angela

Documentarian in Community Co-Creation, MDOCS

Procession, parade, community: Exploring performance in motion

Emeritus Faculty Development Grants – Fall Round

Arnush, Michael

Classics

Research for Novel: "The tattered Satchel"

Aronson, Lisa

Art History

Archival Research for "Dora the Anarchist" book project

Emeritus Faculty Development Grants – Spring Round

Hall, Deborah

Art

New Explorations: Art, Transition, and Transformation

Faculty Student Summer Research Program

Ashmore, Anthony

Assistant Professor, Physics

Simulating the strong force with neural networks

Ball, K. Aurelia

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Using Gaussian Accelerated Molecular Dynamics to study long-timescale conformational changes of flexible proteins

Ball, K. Aurelia

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Determining the role of proline conformation in binding to an SH3 domain by molecular dynamics simulations

Biberman-Ocakli, Yelena

Associate Professor, Political Science

Democracy Militarized: Politics of Survival in Kashmir

Bonner, Jennifer

Associate Professor, Biology

The Role of Hemp Extract on Zebrafish Behavior

Bonner, Jennifer

Associate Professor, Biology

The Role of Hemp Extract on Zebrafish Cellular Structures

Cermatori, Joseph

Associate Professor, English

Anthologizing Thornton Wilder: Editing, Historical Research, and Manuscript Finalization

Chase, Tory

Visiting Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies and Sciences

Refocusing Florida coral reef restoration site analyses: Sediment dynamics, benthic communities, and education extensions

Covey, Kristopher

Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies and Sciences

Developing a comprehensive soil carbon inventory by evaluating low-cost soil bulk density collection methods in diversified farms in the Northeast

Du, Wenlu

Assistant Professor, Computer Science

Reinforcement Learning for Adaptive Bipedal Locomotion on Quadrupedal Robots

Du, Wenlu

Assistant Professor, Computer Science

Prompt Engineering Experiments: Optimizing LLM Performance for Technical Tasks

Emeka, Amon

Associate Professor, Sociology

Internal Migration in the Contemporary U.S.: A Demographic reconnaissance

Frederick, Kimberley

Professor, Chemistry

Development of a Paper Microfluidic Device to Determine Creatinine Levels in Urine

Frey, Steven

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Reactivity Studies of Manganese (II) Compounds with Macrocyclic Ligands as Superoxide Dismutase Enzyme Mimetics

Frey, Steven

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Optimization of the synthesis of a hexadentate ligand with pyridine and alcohol groups

Gleit, Rebecca

Assistant Professor, Sociology

Police Involvement in Mental Health Emergencies

Gomez, Pablo

Associate Professor, Psychology

Investigating Trans-Saccadic Memory and Letter Abstraction in Dyslexic and Non-Dyslexic Readers

Hart, Siobhan

Associate Professor, Anthropology

Ground Penetrating Radar and Historical Archaeology at Lake George Battlefield State Park

Hogenson, Kirsten

Assistant Professor, Mathematics and Statistics

Optimal Solutions for Rainbow Static Mastermind

Hou, Xiaoshuo

Professor, Sociology / Asian Studies

Consuming Conservatism: The Politics of Social Media Food Content

Hou, Xiaoshuo

Professor, Sociology / Asian Studies

The Impact of Live Streaming E-commerce on Labor Markets in China's Garment Industry and Globalization

Ives, Stephen

Associate Professor, Health and Human Physiological Sciences

The Role of Sex on Impact of Sympathetic Nervous System Activity on the NIRS-VOT

Johnson, Rebecca

Professor, Psychology

First Things First: Serial Letter Processing Effects in Children and Adults

Jokiel, Patrick

Visiting Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Synthesis of Benzimidazolone Analogs via Oxidative C-H Activation: Competition Experiments

Jokiel, Patrick

Visiting Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Synthesis of Benzimidazolone Analogs via Oxidative C-H Activation: Heterocyclic Substitution of the N-Aryl Group

Kendall, Beatrice

Senior Instructor, Chemistry

Experiments in Organic Chemistry: Vegetables as Chemical Reagents

Kendall, Beatrice

Senior Instructor, Chemistry

Many Roads to DEET - Optimizing the Amidation of m-Toluic Acid

LaFreniere, Lucas

Assistant Professor, Psychology

Dissemination & Study of Clinical Positive Emotional Engagement Treatments for Anxiety

Lagalwar, Sara

Professor, Neuroscience

Assessment of direct interaction between mutant ataxin-1 protein and mitochondrial proteins in cell culture models of Spinocerebellar ataxia type 1 (SCA1)

Lagalwar, Sara

Professor, Neuroscience

Screening drug cocktails for efficacy in boosting mitochondrial respiration in cell culture models of Spinocerebellar ataxia type 1 (SCA1)

LeSage, Emily

Assistant Professor, Biology

Grow, multiply, and evade: exploring phenotypic variation among Bd isolates

LeSage, Emily

Assistant Professor, Biology

The effect of road salt runoff on amphibian fungal disease prevalence and intensity

Lucas, Matt

Professor, Management and Business

AI Options Market Navigator

McDevitt, Sylvia

Associate Professor, Biology

Effect of zinc supplement and genetic disposition on the mouse gut microbiome

McDevitt, Sylvia

Associate Professor, Biology

Prevalence of Metal resistant bacteria near paper manufacturing sites

Navea, Juan

Professor, Chemistry

Practical Isotopic Labeling of Activated Olefins

Navea, Juan

Professor, Chemistry

Chemistry and photochemistry of sea spray aerosols

Navea, Juan

Professor, Chemistry

Photochemistry in the ocean-air interface

Navea, Juan

Professor, Chemistry

Heterogeneous ozonolysis of terpenes adsorbed on components of mineral dust

Ocakli, Feryaz

Associate Professor, Political Science

Food Politics of the Southern Cone: Rising Agricultural Powers of Latin America

Park, Joowon

Associate Professor, Anthropology

Analysis of Propaganda Leaflets during the Korean War Part Two

Possidente, Bernard

Professor, Biology

The Effects of Topiramate on Circadian Clock Function in Two Model Organisms

Prasad, Aarathi

Associate Professor, Computer Science

Privacy preserving clothing for kids

Raththagala, Madushi

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Isotopic Labeling of Imines via H-D Exchange

Raththagala, Madushi

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Practical Isotopic Labeling of Activated Olefins

Raththagala, Madushi

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Investigate the mechanism of SEX4 kinetic cooperativity

Raththagala, Madushi

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Define the enzymatic coupling of glucan phosphatases with other catabolic enzymes and exploit their activity in starch utilization

Reiter, Johanna

Assistant Professor, Social Work

Survivor Strengths: Perceptions of Parenting Among Youth Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

Roca, Maryuri

Senior Teaching Professor, Chemistry

Feasibility of silver nanodisks as SERS substrate

Roca, Maryuri

Senior Teaching Professor, Chemistry

Quantification of Silver Nanoparticles in Films

Schmitt, Harrison

Assistant Professor, Psychology

Environmental Racism in the Era of Colorblindness

Seaton, Christopher

Professor, Mathematics and Statistics

Computation of Invariants of Singular Quotients

Sheppard, Kelly

Professor, Chemistry

Dual Pathways for Bacilli Asparaginyl-tRNA Formation - B. Anthracis

Sheppard, Kelly

Professor, Chemistry

Expanding the E.coli Genetic Code with Pyroglutamate

Soares, Edgard

Visiting Assistant Professor, Health and Human Physiological Sciences

Evaluating Exercise Intensity Thresholds as Predictors of Cardiovascular Risk and Mortality: A Systematic Review

Somerville-Braun, Jessica

Assistant Professor, Education Studies

Immigrant Identities: Analyzing Windows & Mirrors for the 5th Graders in English Language Arts

Steven, Frey

Associate Professor, Chemistry

Isotopic Labeling of Imines via H-D Exchange

Tinkle, Adam

Associate Professor, Media and Film Studies and MDOCS

Good, Evil, and Everything Else

Tiwari, Smriti

Associate Professor, Economics

Temporal changes in the economic lives of Indonesian women

Vecsey, Christopher

Associate Professor, Neuroscience

Studies of sNPF Neuron Activation on Sleep in Drosophila melanogaster

Vecsey, Christopher

Associate Professor, Neuroscience

How Astrocytes Regulate Sleep Drosophila melanogaster

Vuvan, Dominique

Associate Professor, Psychology

Electrophysical Correlates of Musical Style Processing

Yildiz, Murat

Assistant Professor, History

Podcasting the Middle East: A History