

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY
BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FOR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS
2009-10 Academic Year

(Below are new faculty who have given permission to publish their bios on the web. Not all new faculty are listed.)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



Amanda Bruce, Assistant Professor

Professor Bruce received her Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University after completing an APA-accredited internship in Clinical Psychology at the Boston VA Hospital. She then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Kansas Medical Center. She is currently conducting research using neuroimaging techniques (functional magnetic resonance imaging) to better understand the brain's role in obesity. In addition, Dr. Bruce is using fMRI to learn how the brain responds to food advertising.

Lindsay Meyers, Visiting Assistant Professor

Lindsay L. Myers comes to UMKC as a Visiting Assistant Professor of French from the University of Kentucky where she was the Director of the Lower Division French program. A Kansas City native, she received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in French Linguistics in 2007.



Clovis E. Semmes, Professor

PhD. Northwestern University, MA, University of Illinois, Chicago; BA, Northwestern University. Areas of Specialization: African American Institutions, Culture, and Social Processes; African American Popular and Expressive Culture; Health Systems and Health Behavior; Alternative and Nonmedical Health Practices; Systemic Inequality; Comparative Urban Communities; Afrocentric Theory.



Veronica Nana Wilson-Tagoe, Visiting Professor

PhD. University of the West Indies, Trinidad; MA, University of London (Royal Holloway College); BA, University of Ghana Areas of Specialization & Interest: English Language & Literature, 19th Century British Literature, Caribbean & African Literature, Postcolonial Studies, African American Literature, Black British Literature, Comparative Black Literatures, Gender Studies in Cross-cultural Contexts, Literary theory

BLOCH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



John Clark, Associate Professor of Finance

Dr. Clark came to us from the College of Business at the University of Southern Mississippi where he served as an Associate Professor of Finance. He earned his Ph.D. in Finance from The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Dr. Clark's primary areas of interest are investments, derivatives, and financial planning.



Brent Never, Assistant Professor of Nonprofit Management, Department Of Public Affairs

Dr. Never came to us from the University of Illinois at Springfield where he served as an Assistant professor in the Department of Public Administration. His areas of specialization are public and nonprofit management, and public policy. He earned his Ph.D. in a joint program in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and the Department of Political Science at Indiana University-Bloomington.

CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DANCE



Ronald Tice, Assistant Professor

Ronald Tice comes to the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance as an Assistant Professor in Dance/Ballet from the University of Minnesota, where he has been on the dance faculty since 2002. Tice has been a professional dancer for 35 years, and has performed throughout North America and Europe. Highlights of his career include an appearance as a soloist with the Grand Theatre of Geneva, the Pacific Northwest Ballet and the Seattle Opera. In addition to his tenure at the University of Minnesota, Tice has taught at the North Carolina Dance Theater, Cornish College of the Arts, Spectrum Dance Theater and was the founding Artistic Director of Ballet Bellevue in Bellevue, Washington. Ronald Tice holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Minnesota.



Melita Belgrave, Assistant Professor

Melita Belgrave is joining the faculty at the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance as an Assistant Professor of Music Therapy. Her prior academic appointment was at Florida State University, where she taught a variety of classes and laboratories in music therapy. She has also been employed as a professional music therapist at the CCC Music Therapy Center (Austin, TX), Austin (TX) State Hospital, and Big Bend Hospice (Tallahassee, FL). In these positions she had experience working with a variety of age and ability levels in both individual and group settings. Belgrave holds degrees from Michigan State University (B.M.) and Florida State University (Certificate in Aging Studies, M.M., Ph.D.).

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

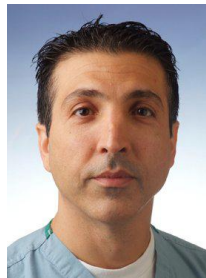


Brad Babcock, Clinical Assistant Professor, General Dentistry

Dr. Babcock graduated from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln in 1977 with his dental degree. He was in private practice for 31 years in Wyoming and Independence, MO before joining the UMKC faculty part-time in April, 2008 then full-time that August. His professional clinical focus has been on fixed prosthetics with an emphasis on cosmetic and crown and bridge dentistry.

L.T. Johnson, Fellow, Oral Surgery

Graduated from Meharry Medical College with DDS in 2007; and worked previously at the UMKC School of Dentistry, Oral Surgery Department for one year while serving as an Intern for the residents in the advanced education program for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



Giovanni Safdari, Fellow, Oral Surgery

He earned a DDS in 2008 from Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry and in 2001 an MD from Central America Health Science University of Medicine.



Tamra J. Bendure, Fellow, Oral Pathology, Oral Radiology and Oral Medicine

A class of 2005, UMKC School of Dentistry, Division of Dental Hygiene graduate, she was hired in 2008 to instruct students in the Radiology Department in the dental clinic. She has seven years experience in private practice as a dental assistant and dental hygienist.



Alison C. Louie, Fellow, General Dentistry

She obtained her DDS in 2007 with honors from University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School and finished her General Practice Residency in June, 2008 at University Medical Center, Fresno, California.



James B. Trotter, Clinical Assistant Professor, General Dentistry

Dr. Trotter graduated with a DDS from UMKC in 1976 and spent 30 years in solo private practice in Overland Park, KS. During that time he gained teaching experience and participated in 1997-99 Medical Missions to Guyana.



Lian Xiang Bi, Research Associate Professor, Oral Biology

M.D. from Hebei Medical University, Shijiazhuang, Hebei, P.R., China

Dr. Bi has 11 years of clinical experience in orthopedics (orthopedic surgeon) and 13 years of basic science experience. Clinically, he has been an orthopedic surgeon acquiring extensive experience with a variety of orthopedic patients in trauma, spine, hand and pediatrics. His basic science studies are focused on bone physiology and bone pathology. He has characterized bone marrow sac cells, osteoblasts in cell culture, and in electron microscopic studies. At UMKC Dr. Bi is involved in two studies funded by the UMKC Center for the Study of Mineralized (Dental and Musculoskeletal) Tissues that have objectives to develop bone stabilizers that can act as “spacers” and “spot welders” which can not only stabilize fractures and be biocompatible, but

will also enhance fracture repair and the osteointegration of prosthetic devices and to develop new biomaterials including bioactive glasses and composites.



G. Juliana Redford, Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Redford graduated in 1987 with a DDS from Universidad Santo Tomas De Aquino in Bucaramanga, Santander, Columbia and received a specialist degree in Pediatric Dentistry in 1993 from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá. She has extensive clinical as well as teaching experience. She relocated from Virginia to Kansas City and joined the faculty in September, 2008.



Catherine D. Saylor, Clinical Assistant Professor, Periodontics

Completing her Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene Education at UMKC School of Dentistry in 2005, Cat was employed part-time as a dental hygienist while completing her Master of Science in Dental Hygiene in May, 2008. She is the current President of Sigma Phi Alpha and President-Elect of the UMKC Dental Hygiene Alumni Association.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



Raol (Ray) Taft, Assistant Professor - Special Education

Completing his Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University in State College Pennsylvania in the area of Special Education. Before beginning doctoral work, taught special education students in Champagne, IL

Dr. Joy Pedego Fairley, Visiting Assistant Professor – Special Education

Currently resides in Parkville, Missouri. Earned her Ph.D. in Special Education and School Administration/Leadership from the University of Kansas. Brings extensive experience coordinating special education programs in Leavenworth KS



Candace Schlein, Assistant Professor

Candace Schlein completed her Ph.D. in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE/UT). Following her terminal degree, she pursued postdoctoral studies as a Fellow of the University of Toronto. Her research interests include curriculum studies, issues of diversity in teaching and learning, urban education, comparative and international education, cross-cultural teacher development, and narrative inquiry. Dr. Schlein will begin this fall as an Assistant Professor of Curriculum Theory and Development in the Division of Curriculum & Instructional Leadership of the School of Education at the University of Missouri–Kansas City.

SCHOOL OF LAW



Susan Gardner, Clinical Associate Professor

B.A. University of Missouri-Columbia; J.D. University of Missouri-Kansas City

Professor Gardner joined the UMKC Law School in 2008. She teaches entrepreneurship and business law and serves as Faculty Co-Director of the UMKC Entrepreneurial Legal Services Clinic. Professor Gardner is a corporate attorney with more than 25 years of experience. Most recently, Ms. Gardner was Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary at Enturia, Inc., a family-owned company that commercialized a product used for skin antisepsis prior to medical procedures, which was sold to Cardinal Health, Inc. Prior to that, she served as Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for CyDex, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company commercializing a drug delivery technology outlicensed from the University of Kansas. She held senior legal positions with Hoechst Marion Roussel and predecessor companies Marion Merrell Dow and Marion Laboratories, now Sanofi-Aventis. She started her legal career with a small business law firm, Stubbs & Mann, PC, in Kansas City, and with two other attorneys, she later formed a small law firm, Pratt Gardner and Fredrick LLC, which specialized in providing corporate and commercial services to life science companies.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Stuart Hinds, Librarian II – Head of Special Collections

Stuart Hinds is Head of Special Collections in the University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries. Special Collections includes the Dr. Kenneth J. LaBudde Department of Special Collections and the Marr Sound Archives in the Miller Nichols Library. Mr. Hinds previously served in the public Library sector, with stints at Kansas City Public and Johnson County libraries. He is a specialist in Kansas City History. Mr. Hinds received his MA in Library and Information Science from University of Iowa.



Brent Husher, Librarian I – Reference Librarian; Library Instruction Coordinator

Brent Husher is the new Reference Librarian – Library Instruction Coordinator in the UMKC University Libraries at Miller Nichols Library. His area of expertise includes coordinating, planning, development and delivery of library instruction; providing reference and instruction service; developing and managing library collections and serving as liaison to UMKC Department of Communication Studies. Mr. Husher earned his MA in Information Science and Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Ming Zhao, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor

Dr. Zhao received his Doctor of Medicine in 1983 from Hebei Medical University in Hebei, China and his Doctor of Philosophy in 1993 from Academy of Military Medical Sciences in Beijing, China. He came to UMKC from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. There he was a Research Assistant

Professor in the Center for Bone Biology. His specialty is Bone Molecular Biology.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



Eve Elias, Clinical Assistant Professor

Eve Elias, PharmD joins the School of Pharmacy Faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Pharmacy Practice and Administration, specializing in Drug Information and based at the UMKC Satellite Doctor of Pharmacy Program in Columbia, Missouri, beginning on August 1, 2009. She recently completed a two year residency in Drug Information at the University of Tennessee Drug Information Center in January 2009 and her Master's degree in Health Policy in December 2009.



Erica Russell, Clinical Assistant Professor

Erica Russell, PharmD joins the School of Pharmacy Faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Pharmacy Practice and Administration, based at the UMKC School of Pharmacy's Satellite PharmD Program on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus, beginning on August 1, 2009. Erica comes to Kansas City from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center- College of Pharmacy in Memphis, Tennessee.

Kristen Sobczak, Clinical Assistant Professor

Kristen Sobczak, PharmD joins the School of Pharmacy Faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor specializing in community pharmacy practice and patient care services, Division of Pharmacy Practice and Administration, based at the Red Cross Pharmacy, Inc., beginning on August 1, 2009. Kristen comes to Kansas City from Columbus, Ohio where she recently finished a pharmacy practice residency with an emphasis in community care at The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy.



Eric Wombwell, Clinical Assistant Professor

Eric Wombwell, PharmD joins the School of Pharmacy Faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Pharmacy Practice and Administration, based at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center-Columbia, beginning on July 1, 2009. Eric most recently was a Pharmacist with the K-Mart Pharmacy in St. Joseph, Missouri. His areas of expertise are in Pharmacy and General Medicine.