An outstanding faculty, exceptional and diverse academic programs, and an institution-wide commitment to student success; all are hallmarks of our excellent public comprehensive college and a solid foundation from which to move The College at Brockport forward.

This year, Twenty-eight new faculty join our College. Continuing our strong emphasis on the teacher-scholar model, each of these individuals brings a passion for teaching and a robust scholarly agenda from which to build upon. Please join me in welcoming them to the Brockport faculty.

Douglas M. Scheidt, PhD
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Anthony Dumas, PhD
Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Theatre Delta College
Dr. Dumas chose Brockport because of the collaborative and interdisciplinary nature of the Department of Theatre and Music Studies and Delta College. His primary research is located conceptually where Mediterranean, American and Caribbean music, cultures and identities intersect. He recently taught and received his Doctor of Philosophy in Music (Ethnomusicology) from The University of California, Davis.

Kristen Proehl, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of English
Dr. Proehl received her PhD in American Studies from the College of William and Mary in 2011. Her book project, Battling Girlhood, examines the development of the tomboy figure from its origins in nineteenth century sentimental novels, such as Louisa May Alcott’s Little Women. She most enjoys helping students to further develop their critical thinking, writing and communication skills.

Nilay Saiya, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
Dr. Saiya comes to The College at Brockport from Indiana, having earned her PhD at the University of Notre Dame in Political Science. She is most interested in the intersection of religion and international relations, especially religious terrorism and the role of religion in American foreign policy. Her dissertation is titled The Roots of Religious Terrorism.

Vanessa VanWormer, MFA
Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Dance
Ms. VanWormer was drawn to the dance department’s learning environment and their encouragement of profound integration of body and mind. Having received her MFA in dance at Brockport, her creative research focuses on the identity of ballet in the 21st century, exploring how the evolution of the art form leads to innovative choreographic and pedagogical practice.
Justin Walden, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Communication

Dr. Walden recently received his PhD in mass communication from Pennsylvania State University. His focus is on public relations/employee relations, telecommunications industries and health communication. Dr. Walden was inspired to come to Brockport by a department with a great mix of critical thinkers who embrace theory and faculty who teach hands-on courses.

The School of Business Administration and Economics

Tamoya Christie, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Business

Dr. Christie is excited about Brockport and the opportunity to interact with, and learn from, bright young minds with fresh perspectives. Recently, she lectured at the University of the West Indies and prior to that she earned her PhD in economics as a Fulbright Scholar at Georgia State University. Concentrating on public policy, her expertise ranges from government fiscal and monetary policies and their impact on economic and social factors.

Jack Cook, PhD
Assistant Professor

Dr. Cook comes to Brockport with a great deal of teaching experience. He has taught at the University of South Dakota, Washington State University, SUNY Geneseo and, most recently, Rochester Institute of Technology. Dr. Cook earned his PhD in Business Administration from Washington State University in 1993.

Sherry Kao, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Business

Dr. Kao received her PhD in Business Administration from the Boston University School of Management in 2013. After a warm welcome from the Brockport faculty during her interview process, she embraced the great working environment Brockport offers. Her primary research interest lies in understanding incentives for innovation and valuation of intangible assets. She believes teaching is the best way to learn new ideas and refresh what she has previously learned.
Megan Kienzle, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Criminal Justice
Dr. Kienzle received her PhD in Criminology, Law, and Society from University of Florida in August of 2013. One of her major areas of focus is the study of wrongful convictions, specifically the known causes or contributors. She explains that the most exciting aspect of teaching is trying to instill in students the same passion for the material that she possesses.

Ingrid McGuffog, PhD
Assistant Professor
Dr. McGoffog’s research interests include sociology of drugs and crime, epidemiological criminology, drug policy, evaluation science and research methods. She comes to Brockport from Griffith University, where she was an associate lecturer in its School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. She earned her PhD from Griffith in 2013.

Pamela Viggiani, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Work
Dr. Viggiani joins Brockport from Nazareth College after having served as an assistant professor for nine years and an associate professor for two years. The deep collaboration between Brockport and Nazareth through the Greater Rochester Collaborative (GRC) Masters in Social Work program made Brockport an ideal next step in a long career. Her scholarly activity is focused on teaching and learning, diversity, children with developmental disabilities in transition and poverty.

Joel Agate, PhD
Assistant Professor
Dr. Agate came to Brockport because he felt its faculty engagement, student focus, and balance between scholarship, teaching, and service fit well with his academic goals. His research explores the modern phenomenon of play deprivation, and the mechanisms and functions of positive emotions experienced in outdoor recreation and the contributions of recreation to community character.

The School of Education and Human Services

The School of Health and Human Performance
Renee Biedlingmaier, MS, RN
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Nursing

Ms. Biedlingmaier enters academia after spending seventeen years as a professional nurse. While working at Lakeside Beikirch Care Center, Ms. Biedlingmaier completed her MS in nursing. She has served as a nurse manager, clinical nurse leader, staff development coordinator and emergency preparedness coordinator. Her down time is spent with her family participating in kyokushin karate, fishing, horseback riding, hiking and boating.

Karilee Bingham
Clinical Assistant Professor

Ms. Bingham comes to Brockport with more than 17 years of nursing experience. She earned her master’s degree from the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the University of Rochester School of Nursing.

Jennifer Chesebro, MS, RN, FNP-BC
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Nursing

Initially a Brockport Nursing graduate, Ms. Chesebro went on to receive her Master of Science in Nursing following the Nurse Practitioner Tract from West Virginia University in 1999. She has been a professional nurse for 19 years. Ms. Chesebro is interested in helping nursing students with the actual process of learning and helping them become outstanding nurses academically, clinically and through community service.

Amanda Coyle
Assistant Professor

Ms. Coyle is an alumna of The College at Brockport, having earned her nursing degree in 2002. She is currently pursuing her PhD at the University of Rochester. Her research interests center on diverse and vulnerable populations, with her current dissertation work involving the uninsured, utilizing a focused ethnography method.
Tammy Farnham, MS, RN, FNP, CNM  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Department of Nursing  
Ms. Farnham has served as a registered nurse, nurse practitioner and certified nurse midwife. She brings 20 years of experience as a nurse and as a women’s health clinician and maintains a passion for maternal and child health. In 2003, Ms. Farnam received her post-masters certificate in nurse midwifery from the Institute of Midwifery, Women & Health in Philadelphia. She looks forward to sharing her knowledge of women’s health with her students.

Melissa Fromm  
Lecturer  
Ms. Fromm comes to Brockport from Monroe Community College, where she taught physical education majors and non-majors in individual sports, racquet ball, fitness and health and safety in the work place. She earned a master’s of education in exercise and sports science from the University of Wisconsin La Crosse.

Christine Hopple, MS  
Instructor  
Department of Kinesiology, Sports Studies and Physical Education  
Ms. Hopple was attracted to Brockport’s state, national and international reputation in Physical Education pedagogy. As a PhD candidate in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Maryland, her dissertation focuses on “What makes ‘fun’ fun?” She served as an instructor at Penn State University for five years and has taught in the Physical and Health Education Teacher Education (PHETE) program, with an emphasis on pedagogical courses across the K-12 school level.

Briana Jegier, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Health Science  
Dr. Jegier received her PhD in 2008 from Saint Louis University with a concentration in Public Health Studies, Health Management and Policy. Her current research examines the cost effectiveness of feeding premature infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Dr. Jeiger chose Brockport because of its dedication to teaching and scholarship and its commitment to service. Incidentally, the first person in her family to graduate from college was her grandfather—from The College at Brockport.
Jun Woo Kim, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Kinesiology, Sports Studies and Physical Education  
Dr. Kim recently received his PhD in Sport Management from Florida State University. His dissertation is titled “The Role of Mixed Emotions and Counterfactual Thinking in Consumer Satisfaction within a Spectator Sport Context”. He feels his research lines will complement the scholarly work of the current faculty members in the department. In his spare time, he enjoys golf.

Ronald L. Mower, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Kinesiology, Sports Studies and Physical Education  
Dr. Mower comes to Brockport from the University of Maryland, where he earned his PhD in August 2013. His dissertation was titled “Philanthropy, fitness, and failed states: The physical cultures of Metropolitan Baltimore”. He was drawn to Brockport because of its unrivaled commitment to student learning and the level of emphasis placed on quality teaching and instruction.

Amaury Samalot-Rivera, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Kinesiology, Sports Studies and Physical Education  
Having received his PhD from The Ohio State University in Adapted Physical Education in 2007, Dr. Samalot-Rivera’s research has been focused on the development of appropriate behavior during physical education and sports for students with and without special needs. He is excited to help others pursue their dreams to become physical education educators.

Brooke Starkoff, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Kinesiology, Sports Studies and Physical Education  
While initially drawn to the small class sizes and growing Kinesiology program at Brockport, Dr. Starkoff then became attracted to the College’s friendly and welcoming students. She received her PhD in May 2013 from The Ohio State University and her research focuses on obesity, specifically the effects in childhood. In her spare time, she participates in triathlons and spends much of her time outdoors.
Kathryn Amatangelo  
*Assistant Professor*  
Department of Environmental Science & Biology  
Dr. Amatangelo received her PhD in Biological Sciences from Stanford University in 2008. Her dissertation was titled “Biomass and biochemistry: Litter impacts on community and ecosystem processes”. Her primary interest is in developing a combined research and teaching program focused on the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Algernon T. Kelley, PhD  
*Lecturer*  
Department of Chemistry  
While Dr. Kelley received his PhD in chemistry from Louisiana State University, his passion lies in finding new teaching methods for those with learning disabilities. His primary research interest is pedagogical research where the ultimate goal is to advance current teaching methodologies in science courses to better accommodate students who are academically challenged.

Brandy Sreenilayam, PhD  
*Assistant Professor*  
Department of Chemistry  
Dr. Sreenilayam’s research is focused on protein crystallization. She focuses her students on separating the protein of interest from all other proteins and then sets up conditions to grow a crystal of the protein to solve the 3-D structure of the protein. She received her PhD in 2009 in Molecular Physiology and Biophysics from The University of Iowa.

Tasneem Zaihra, PhD  
*Assistant Professor*  
Department of Mathematics  
Dr. Zaihra received her PhD in Statistics in 2009 from the University of Windsor. Her research focuses on developing new methods and evaluating existing ones, for the analysis of longitudinal data. She also collaborates with interdisciplinary groups on research aimed at tailoring intervention and therapy. She enjoys motivating students to make their communities their active and practical laboratories.