Gupta College of Science

Kick-Off Meeting

Fall 2023

Dr. Chad L. Leverette, Dean
Special Guests

Eric Resnis
Head of Research and Scholarship
Librarian

Emily Gaspar, Ph.D.
Interim Assistant Vice President for Community Building, Outreach, and Student Media
Designated 504 Coordinator/ADA Compliance Officer
Accessibility and Disability Services
Scopus

• Replaces Web of Science
  ○ Similar coverage
  ○ Citation databases

• NEW: Publication Metrics
  ○ Journal-level information
  ○ Field-level analysis ('author influence')

• Interfaces with other Elsevier Products
  ○ ScienceDirect (Elsevier's full text repository)
  ○ Mendeley (citation management)
Library Support for Open Access

• Open Access fund
  ◦ Up to $5,000
  ◦ Available for all CCU faculty, students, and staff

• Transformative agreements that support Open Access
  ◦ Agreements with six publishers
  ◦ One membership

• Author's Rights
  ◦ Modify the publishing agreement to allow for sharing or posting

• Contact us for more information
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New Hires – Department of Biology

Callie Crawford
Assistant Professor of Biology
Department of Biology

The Department of Biology welcomes Callie Crawford as a new assistant professor. Crawford studies functional morphology of vertebrates with emphasis on locomotion in cartilaginous and bony fishes. She has expertise using micro-computed tomography to visualize anatomical structures and analyze how these structures relate to their function. Crawford earned her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Most recently, she has been conducting research as a Postdoctoral Researcher and teaching courses as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. Crawford will be teaching Vertebrate Zoology, Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy, Principles of Biology, and related courses at CCU. In her spare time, Callie enjoys kayaking, birding, and lounging with her two cats.
Matthew Grisnik
Assistant Professor of Biology
Department of Biology
The Department of Biology welcomes Matthew Grisnik as a new assistant professor. Grisnik examines how disturbances influence vertebrate populations using field sampling, molecular biology techniques such as high-throughput genetic sequencing, and geospatial modeling. More specifically, he has studied how fungal pathogens affect several species of vertebrates and the microbiome living on these vertebrates. Grisnik earned his Ph.D. in Biology at Middle Tennessee State University. Most recently, he has been conducting research as a Postdoctoral Researcher at Tennessee State University. Grisnik will be teaching Evolution, Principles of Biology, and related courses at CCU. In his free time, he likes to hike, do wildlife photography, and play guitar.
New Hires – Department of Chemistry

Michael Vansco
Assistant Professor of Chemistry
Department of Chemistry

Dr. Michael F. Vansco earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from the University of Rhode Island in 2015. After graduating from the University of Rhode Island, Michael pursued a Ph.D. in physical chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied the electronic spectroscopy and photochemistry of atmospheric intermediates with Dr. Marsha I. Lester. He received his Ph.D. in physical chemistry in 2020 and joined Argonne National Laboratory as a postdoctoral appointee, where he worked with Rebecca L. Caravan to study the reactivity of atmospheric intermediates. His research group will build a chemical reactor and simulate the atmospheric processing of pollutants in the laboratory to understand how fast chemical reactions occur, what products are formed, and detect the elusive intermediates that drive the chemistry. In addition, his group will use theoretical tools to explore the fundamental chemical mechanisms of the reaction. For fun, he plays different instruments!
Bohan Fan

*Visiting Assistant Professor*

**Department of Computing Sciences**

Dr. Bohan Fan earned a bachelor's degree in statistics from Nankai University, a MSE in Software Engineering from Peking University, a MS degree in Computer Science and a MS in Financial Analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Illinois-Chicago. His research projects span the areas of medical image segmentation and compression to approximation of algorithms for undetectable poisoning. In his free time, Bohan enjoys outdoor activities like exploring national parks, skiing, camping, and now snorkeling/surfing here!
Kevin McCarey

*Lecturer of Mathematics*

**Department of Mathematics and Statistics**

Kevin McCarey joins the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as a lecturer. He attended Coastal and received his Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics in 2016 and his Master of Arts in Teaching in 2017. Previously, he was a high school math teacher at Carolina Forest High school for 6 years. While at Carolina Forest he was an assistant coach for ultimate frisbee and sponsor for the local Mu Alpha Theta chapter. Kevin’s teaching interests are in college algebra and trigonometry. In his free time, he enjoys rounds of disc golf, playing board/video games, and spending time with family and pets.
Sheila Reilly

Lecturer of Mathematics

Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Sheila Reilly is a Connecticut native and she joins the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as a lecturer. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics Education and followed by a Master of Science degree in Mathematics from Central Connecticut State University. She joins us after teaching for 26 years with a main focus in higher level math courses and AP Statistics. Sheila was also an adjunct professor in the fall of 2022 at Middlesex Community College in CT and completed her Certificate in Data Analytics in March 2023. Without a doubt she enjoys all mathematics and finds a passion for statistics. Sheila has, with great pleasure, also coached high school girls lacrosse for 14 years. She is excited to join the Coastal Carolina University family.
Dina Zohrabi Alaee

Assistant Professor of Physics

Department of Physics and Engineering Science

Dina Zohrabi Alaee, Ph.D., joins the Department of Physics and Engineering Science as an assistant professor of physics. She completed her bachelor’s degree in physics in Iran, and subsequently dedicated ten years to teaching physics in K-12 schools. She earned a Ph.D. in physics from Kansas State University, specializing in physics education. Prior to coming to CCU, she was a postdoctoral researcher and an adjunct faculty member at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Her research interests include student reasoning and problem-solving processes, the use of mathematics in physics, and the examination of how identity, self-efficacy, and sense of belonging impact students' career choices. In her free time, Dina enjoys knitting and playing board games.
Reggie M. Bell

Lecturer and Coordinator of Internships and Industry Relations
Department of Physics & Engineering Science

Reggie M. Bell joins the Department of Physics and Engineering Science as a lecturer. He will also manage internships and relationships with external stakeholders on behalf of the department. Prior to his appointment, he was a teaching associate teaching courses within the engineering curriculum, University 110, and leading the internship program. Reggie completed his bachelor’s degree in applied physics at Emory University, his master’s degree in nuclear engineering at University of Virginia, and his lean-six sigma train-the-trainer certification from Piedmont Technical College and the SC Manufacturing Extension Partnership. Prior to transitioning to academia, he gained nearly 30 years of industry experience in the electricity, manufacturing and affordable housing sectors in engineering, supply chain, and stakeholder management roles. His teaching interests include supply chain network design, nuclear safety and safeguards, and engineering career development.
Dan Huang
Assistant Professor of Engineering
Department of Physics & Engineering Science

Dan Huang, Ph.D. joins the Department of Physics and Engineering Science as Assistant Professor. She received her Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology (2018) and Doctorate in Civil Engineering (2022) from Purdue University. She joined Lafayette College as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in Fall 2022. Huang works on the durability performance of concretes, multiscale characteristics, and the development of sustainable construction materials. Her recent research interest is in applying artificial intelligence to predict the performance of sustainable concrete. At CCU, she will teach Engineering Mechanics courses and is interested in developing new construction materials-related courses. In her free time, Dan enjoys weightlifting, reading, watching movies, music, hiking, cooking (and hoping to learn how to surf in the near future!)
New Hires – Dept. of Psychology

Amy LeFevre

Visiting Professor of Psychology
Department of Psychology

Amy LeFevre, Ph.D., joins the Psychology faculty as a visiting assistant professor. LeFevre holds a B.F.A. from the University of Tennessee Knoxville, with a major in graphic design. She earned her Ph.D. in Biopsychology at the University of Albany, SUNY. She taught at University at Albany, Sage College, and HGTC, before coming to CCU. LeFevre’s research interests include student learning outcomes and student motivation. She is currently working with a colleague on possible differences in cognitive issues in caregivers when the family member is at home or in a healthcare facility.
Patricia “Patty” Taylor

*Lecturer of Science*

**Gupta College of Science**

Patty Taylor joined GCOS in Spring 2023 as a lecturer for Science 101. She received a master's degree from Appalachian State University and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has teaching and college administration experience from her years at Florence-Darlington Technical College and more recently as a teaching associate at Coastal Carolina University. She coordinates the SCIE 101 lecturers/labs. For fun, she enjoys quilting, embroidery, gardening wildflowers, walking the beach to look for seashells, and traveling - especially to desert southwest. She also likes cooking when the results taste good. Her and her husband (Charles or "Rick," in Chemistry) have a daughter who is a freshman at USC in Columbia this fall.
Teaching College: The Ultimate Guide to Lecturing, Presenting, and Engaging Students

Teaching Resource for New Faculty
New Hires – Teaching Associates

Kriston Eaton - Biology
Alan Jones - Biology
Jonathan Ward - Biology
Chad Stephens – Chemistry
Jody Feavearyear, Physics and Engineering Science
Tim Hamilton, Physics and Engineering Science
Timothy Quigley – Psychology
Megan St. Peters – Psychology
Yashica Holmes-Smith - Psychology
Anna Carnaggio - GCOS
New Hires/Change of Positions – Faculty

Dr. Juli Harding
Professor and Chair
Department of Marine Science

Dr. Diane Fribance
Professor
Associate Chair – Undergraduate Programs
Department of Marine Science

Dr. Erin Hackett
Professor
Associate Chair – Graduate Programs
Department of Marine Science

Dr. Miranda Brenneman
Associate Professor of Psychology
Associate Chair
Department of Psychology

Dr. Tom Mullikin
Executive in Residence
Chief Consultant on Environmental Law and Policy
Research Professor
Department of Marine Science
New Hires/Change of Positions – Staff

Ms. Charlene Kaunert
Administrative Specialist
Dept. of Physics and Engineering Science

Ms. Beth Bischoff
Administrative Assistant
Dept. of Marine Science – Undergraduate Programs

Ms. Jennifer “Jenn” Akel
Administrative Assistant
Dept. of Marine Science – Graduate Programs

Ms. Brenda Stevens
Administrative Specialist
Dept. of Computing Science

Mr. Cobi Christiansen
Data Operations Specialist
Gupta College of Science

Ms. Hong Li
Instrument Technician
Gupta College of Science
Prashant S. Sansgiry, Ph.D.
Associate Dean/Professor
**Strategic Responsibilities:** Undergraduate Studies; Faculty, Staff, and Student Affairs; and Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

Rich Viso, Ph.D.
Associate Dean/Professor
**Strategic Responsibilities:** Experiential Learning, Outreach, Strategic Partnerships, Boat Operations, and Graduate Studies

https://www.coastal.edu/science/officeofthedean/facultyandstaff/
Dr. Siming Guo – Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor – Eng. Science
Dr. Matthew Murphy – Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor - Psychology
Dr. Melissa Paiva-Salisbury – Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor – Psych
Dr. Diane Fribance – Promoted to Professor - Marine Science
Dr. Bryan Wakefield – Promoted to Professor - Chemistry
Dr. Dan Abel - Post-Tenure Review – Marine Science
Dr. Paul Gayes - Post-Tenure Review – Marine Science
Dr. Eric Wright – Post-Tenure Review – Marine Science
Dr. Megan Cevasco - Post-Tenure Review – Biology
Dr. Kevin McWilliams – Post-Tenure Review – Chemistry
Dr. Paul Richardson – Post-Tenure Review – Chemistry
Dr. Will Jones – Post-Tenure Review – Computing Sciences
Dr. Keshav Jagannathan - Post-Tenure Review – Math. and Statistics
Dr. Kerry Schwanz – Post-Tenure Review - Psychology
Outreach – Local, State,...Global

- 16.5 million people reached!
- Featured in documentary

Dr. Tom Mullikin, Executive in Residence, Chief Env. Consultant Law and Policy, Research Professor

Global Eco Adventures (GEA) and SC National Heritage Corridor

Dr. Paul Gayes, Executive Director, BCCMWS
Professor of Marine Science
Outreach – Local, State,...Global
Outreach – Local, State,...Global
SC Research Authority Grant

- Partnership with SC Commerce
- Grant - $103,850 FUNDDED
- Purchase EDS attachment
  - Purchase Fall 2023
  - Provides elemental spectrum
Major donation by David and Christy Douglas will establish endowed fund and scholarships in CCU’s Gupta College of Science

August 16, 2023

David and Christy Douglas of Galivants Ferry, S.C., have made a seven-figure donation to support initiatives within the Coastal Carolina University Gupta College of Science. In recognition of their generosity, the CCU board of trustees approved the naming of David and Christy Douglas Hall, previously known as Science
David and Christy Douglas Hall

• In total, two different donors/donations - $2.25 million
  • Scholarships
  • Grow and Expand Experiential Learning
Progression Update

- Part of our Communication Plan
- Once a year – in summer
- Recap previous year
  - Faculty/staff/student accomplishments
  - Updates about College
  - Key feature stories
- Electronic and print
SCoRE – SC INBRE Summer Research

Summer Coastal Research Experience (SCoRE)
2023 HTC Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Lecturer Award

Dr. Paul Richardson
Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023
Johnson Auditorium, 7pm
Vertically Integrated Projects (VIP)

- Experiential learning, in particular undergraduate and graduate research, is a strength of the Gupta College of Science
  - Expand these opportunities
  - Better support these efforts
- VIP – award-winning research idea
  - GA Tech and Purdue
  - Team based, multidisciplinary, peer-mentoring
  - 40+ institutions internationally, over $4500+ students
  - Recognized by NSF, NIH, others
  - Help increase success external funding
  - Help sustain faculty member research
- Identified at AAC&U Transforming STEM Conference, November 2022
- Invited to join – signed MOU – Summer 2023
  - CCU – GCOS - First member institution in South Carolina
- Pilot year – AY2023-2024

https://www.vip-consortium.org/
Fall 2023 Preliminary Enrollment

- Continuing Undergraduate enrollment up 7.1%
- Total enrollment up 6.6%
- Class cancellation for non-payment on 8/17 will have adjusted these numbers
### Fall 2023 Preliminary Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fall 2022 (8-16-2022)</th>
<th>Fall 2023 (8-15-2023)</th>
<th>% change 22 to 23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Freshmen</td>
<td>2,703</td>
<td>2,885</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Transfer</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>655</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readmit</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree/Transient</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>-15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Undergraduates</td>
<td>5,920</td>
<td>6,303</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>9,603</td>
<td>10,281</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>-2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td><strong>10,079</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,747</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.6%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Record – estimated to be around 2,800 after cancellations
### Preliminary Retention (Fall 2022 to Fall 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Freshman Cohort</th>
<th>First-Sem Retention</th>
<th>First-Year Retention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FA 2015 to 16</td>
<td>2,359</td>
<td>2,079 (88.1%)</td>
<td>1,616 (68.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2016 to 17</td>
<td>2,246</td>
<td>1,988 (88.5%)</td>
<td>1,508 (67.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2017 to 18</td>
<td>2,381</td>
<td>2,112 (88.7%)</td>
<td>1,641 (68.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2018 to 19</td>
<td>2,313</td>
<td>2,059 (89.0%)</td>
<td>1,582 (68.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2019 to 20</td>
<td>2,301</td>
<td>2,054 (89.3%)</td>
<td>1,690 (73.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2020 to 21</td>
<td>2,043</td>
<td>1,755 (85.9%)</td>
<td>1,477 (72.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2021 to 22</td>
<td>2,511</td>
<td>2,255 (89.8%)</td>
<td>1,773 (70.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FA 2022 to 23 (preliminary)</td>
<td>2,653</td>
<td>2,388 (90.0%)</td>
<td><strong>2,035 (76.7%)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Updates from Provost

Academic Integrity Office

- **Dr. Clayton Whitesides** has accepted a new position as an associate dean in the Spadoni College of Education and Social Science and will no longer be serving as our Academic Integrity Officer.

- Effective last Wednesday, **Dr. Frederick Wood** has agreed to serve as the interim academic integrity officer for this upcoming year.

- We have put together a committee to explore some different ways of structuring our Academic Integrity Office. The workload has simply become to large for one faculty member to manage.

- Expect to see a proposal before Faculty Senate this fall.
Generative AI Guidance

AI is here to stay and we need to teach our students (and ourselves) when it is appropriate to use AI tools and how to responsibly use them.

• Instructors should plan to include an [AI policy statement] in their syllabus.
• There are a number of [AI trainings] or open discussions scheduled for this week and next week.
• Explore the resources on our [AI Central] website! Many thanks to Wes Fondren and the folks in the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies.
• Please remember that there are University policies in place that restrict or prevent you from sharing University proprietary information, property, and data, with any generative AI tool. It is imperative that you review and continue to comply with University policies and all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), related to your use of AI.
• “One-stop shop” for information about our College
  • College Calendar
  • College Handbook
  • GCOS P&T Calendar
  • Summary of P&T expectations
  • Faculty Evaluation Forms
  • Travel Forms
  • Other Processes
  • College Objectives
  • College Summary Report
  • Strategic Planning/Visioning Data

https://www.coastal.edu/science/resources/
Work Ahead of Us...College Objectives

• Continue on:
  • Our identity
  • Our message
• Continue to **lean in** this year into visioning process
  • How we do this together
• Continue **proactive** approach to all we do
  • Initiatives/objectives, budget, curriculum, our policies, our priorities, etc.
• Willing to be experimentalists – *it may not always work!*
  • “**Can do approach**” – ask the tough questions
• Be accountable and improve transparency
• **32 identified objectives for AY2023-2024** *(on College Faculty/Staff Resources page)*
  • From Visioning/Strategic Planning Survey, discussion/review College Council
  • Some continuing from last year – others are new
• Full summary report from last year on *College Faculty/Staff Resources page*
• **Consistency, results, and rhythms for College**
College Objectives

• Our Vision
  • Complete College visioning/strategic planning process this year
  • Professionally publish/print/share
  • Align with President’s charge of *Reach, Rigor, Reputation*
    • Support CCU Strategic Plan

• Open College forums to review summary of data
  • August 29, 9:30am, LJSU Theater
  • September 6, 3pm, LJSU Theater
• Continue Our Communication and Our “One College” Approach
  • Continue to share (using our Communication Plan) about the College
    • Build unity, awareness, and advocacy
  • Invites to classrooms and experiences (thank you!)
  • Development of new marketing materials for College and all units in College
  • Consider targeted advertising to grow our brand and recruitment of STEM students
College Objectives

• Excellent Teaching, Student Success and Supporting the Teacher-Scholar Model
  • Increase/expand classroom resources – what do we need?
  • Through departments, look at/discuss expanding/revising curricular offerings
    • Ex) Coastal engineering, cyber/intelligence, clinical lab science, others
      • Possibly doing more interdisciplinary programs
  • Grow/expand experiential learning opportunities
    • Organize and share more clearly what we do
    • Research Fellows Program
    • Soft launch VIP
    • Grow support students to present at least one regional conference
      • Host site - SC Academy of Science 2025
    • Look at national models for FYE – Univ. 110 - is our offering hitting the mark?
College Objectives

• Excellent Teaching, Student Success and Supporting the Teacher-Scholar Model
  • Continue to work on support and strategy for graduate programs
  • Work with Computing Science to look at revision to MS program and key scholarship funds that support it
  • Focus on strategies for more targeted STEM recruitment
    • Summer STEM Day 2024 (Horry/Georgetown)
    • Successsteam
      • Oct 4-5 visit
  • Look at opportunities to help students with career preparation skills/advice
  • Consider DEI initiatives to help our wonderfully diverse students
  • Continue to look at “on the water” locations that will allow us to be even more distinctive in teaching and research
College Objectives

- Professional Development and Support for Faculty and Staff
  - Join in national conversations on STEM – Nov. 2-4, 2023 (AAC&U Transforming STEM)
  - Better appreciation/gratitude of our faculty and staff
    - *Celebration of Excellence* – April 2024
    - *Thank You Project*
      - Share our appreciation for each other
  - Look at faculty load and other resources
    - Compare across College and campus
    - Better support mentored research efforts
  - Work with NTT and P&T on Principal Lecturer rank
    - And other NTT support items
College Objectives

- **Administrative Processes Improvements/Efficiencies**
  - Continue to share budget, personnel decisions, objectives, processes
    - Personnel decisions/approvals communicated to Chairs Aug. 7
    - Personnel and budget decision details will be shared on Teams next week
  - Utilize lab and program fees as good stewards of resources
  - Hiring, purchasing
    - Terms and Conditions
    - Use of p-cards
  - Work with College Handbook Committee to further update College Handbook
    - Will include updates and some additions
  - “Tighten up” Faculty Evaluation Process – clarifying dates, forms – improve consistency
College Objectives

- **Community Outreach/STEM Awareness/External Partnerships**
  - Support departments’ seminar series
    - Consider possible College series for future
  - Support outreach events of 7 departments and BCCMWS
  - Continue to build external partnerships
    - BOV insight – regular meetings
    - Strategic alignment of Associate Dean
      - Industry Awareness Course
    - Alignment of position in Physics and Engineering Science
    - Closer relationship with Advancement
Wishing you a wonderful semester!

cleverett@coastal.edu,
SCI II 210H, x2282

@CoastalSTEM