

# Full-Time Faculty 2023-2024

**THEA ABRAHAM** **2003**

**Director of Records**

**Instructor of English**

B.A., Missouri Baptist University, 2003

M.S., Missouri Baptist University, 2007

M.A., University of Missouri St. Louis, 2012

**TAMLYN ASHFORD** **2021**

**Director of Field Education**

**Assistant Professor of Social Work**

B.A., Clark Atlanta University, 1997

M.S.W., Clark Atlanta University, 2000

Ed.D., Clark Atlanta University, 2020

**DAVID WAYNE BAILEY** **2002**

**Director of Counseling Services**

**Professor of Psychology**

B.S., Evangel College, 1977

M.A., Biola University, 1980

Psy.D., Biola University, 1983

**WHITNEY BARBRE** **2020**

**Coordinator of the FNP Program**

**Assistant Professor of Nursing**

B.S., University of Alabama- Huntsville, 2012

M.S., South University, 2016

**MATTHEW R. BARDOWELL** **2016**

**Associate Professor of English**

B.A., Florida International University, 2004

M.A., Florida Atlantic University, 2007

Ph.D., Saint Louis University, 2016

**ASHLEY BELL** **2018**

**Assistant Professor of Nursing**

B.S.N., Cedarville University, 2008

M.S.N., University of Missouri-Saint Louis, 2013

<p><b>KEITH BEUTLER</b>  <b>Professor of History</b>  B.A., Liberty University, 1991  M.Ed., Union University, 1997  M.A., University of Tennessee, 1999  Ph.D., Washington University, 2005</p>	<p><b>2000</b></p>
<p><b>MELANIE BISHOP</b>  <b>Vice President for Graduate Affairs</b>  <b>Professor of Education</b>  B.S., Southwest Baptist University, 1994  M.A., Lindenwood University, 1998  Ed.D., Lindenwood University, 2010</p>	<p><b>2013</b></p>
<p><b>MELISSA BISHOP</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Music</b>  A.A., Jefferson College, 1988  B.M., Webster University, 1993  M.M., Kansas State University, 1995</p>	<p><b>2018</b></p>
<p><b>ALAN BLIZE</b>  <b>Chemistry Lab Coordinator and Program Coordinator for Chemistry and Physics</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Chemistry</b>  B.A., University of Montana, 1993  M.S., University of Utah, 1996</p>	<p><b>2015</b></p>
<p><b>HOLLY BRAND</b>  <b>Professor of Psychology</b>  B.S., Southeast Missouri State University, 1994  M.S., Saint Louis University, 1999  Ph.D., Saint Louis University, 2002</p>	<p><b>2000</b></p>
<p><b>PATREECE BROADDUS</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Communications</b>  B.S., Jackson State University, 1989  M.A., University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point, 1991  Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, 1999</p>	<p><b>2022</b></p>
<p><b>JANE BROWN</b>  <b>Associate Dean of the School of Educational Leadership</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Education</b>  B.S., Southwest Baptist University, 1985  M.S., Missouri State University, 1990</p>	<p><b>2013</b></p>

Ed.S., University of Missouri-Columbia, 1999  
Ed.D., Missouri Baptist University, 2012

**JAMES CHELLEW** 2005  
**Site Coordinator, Arnold Regional Learning Center**  
**Assistant Professor of Education**  
B.A., Central Methodist College, 1972  
M.A., Truman State University, 1978  
Additional Studies: University of Missouri-St. Louis

**KIM COCHRAN** 1999  
**Director of MBU Early College Partnerships**  
**Assistant Professor of Mathematics**  
B.S., University of Missouri-Rolla, 1987  
M.B.A., Webster University, 1996

**JANET L. COMFORT** 2004  
**Professor of Sport Management**  
B.S., Liberty University, 1992  
M.A.C., Lynchburg College in Virginia, 1998  
M.Ed., Wichita State University, 2002

**PAUL GREGORY COMFORT** 2003  
**Professor of Sport Management**  
B.S.E., University of Arkansas, 1979  
M.Ed., University of Arkansas, 1986  
Ed.D., University of Arkansas, 1992

**MEGAN COTTET** 2021  
**Human Movement and Performance Program Director**  
**Assistant Professor of Health and Movement Sciences**  
B.S., Lindenwood University, 2014  
M.S., Lindenwood University, 2017

**ANDREA R. COX, L.P.C.** 2020  
**Assistant Professor of Counselor Education**  
B.A., University of Nevada-Las Vegas  
M.Ed., University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2014  
ABD, University of Missouri-St. Louis

**JORDAN COX** 2015  
**Associate Dean of the School of Performing Arts**  
**Director of Choral Activities and Music Education**  
**Assistant Professor of Music**

B.M.E., Missouri Baptist University, 2010  
M.A., Liberty University, 2012  
Ph.D., University of Missouri Columbia, 2019

**KASEY COX** 2012

**Director of Theatre and Dance**  
**Director of Drama Outreach**  
**Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance**  
B.M., Missouri Baptist University, 2010  
M.A., Fontbonne University, 2014

**TAMMY S. COX** 2006

**Dean of the College of Education**  
**Associate Professor of Education**  
B.S.Ed., Southwest Baptist University, 1981  
M.A., Oral Roberts University, 2003  
Ed.D., Missouri Baptist University, 2018

**MARCIE CUTSINGER** 2022

**Associate Professor of Social Work**  
A.A., North Central Missouri College, 1994  
B.S., Missouri Western State University, 1996  
M.S.W., University of Missouri Columbia, 1998  
Ph.D., University of Missouri Columbia, 2018

**GUY DANHOFF** 2008

**Assistant Professor of Sport Management**  
**Instructor of Health and Movement Science**  
A.A., William Rainey Harper College, 1987  
B.S., Western Illinois University, 1990  
M.S., Western Illinois University, 1992

**LEKESHA L. DAVIS** 2018

**Director of Remediation and Retention in Counselor Education**  
**Assistant Professor of Counselor Education**  
B.S., Drake University, 2000  
M.Ed., Delta State University, 2006  
Ph.D., Walden University, 2018

**TIMOTHY DELICATH** 2012

**Director of Office for Institutional Research and Assessment**  
**Professor of Educational Research**  
B.S., Bradley University, 1980  
M.B.A., Lindenwood University, 1987

Ph.D., St. Louis University, 1998

**IRIS DIXON**

**2000**

**Associate Director of Athletics; Compliance and Senior Women's Administrator  
Assistant Professor of Health & Sports Science**

B.S., Northwestern State University, 1993

M.S.Ed., Southern Illinois University- Edwardsville, 2003

**MARK DUERR**

**2017**

**Biochemistry and Assessment Coordinator  
Associate Professor of Biology and Biochemistry**

B.A., Concordia University Wisconsin, 2010

Ph.D., Saint Louis University School of Medicine, 2016

**MATTHEW C. EASTER**

**2012**

**Director of Christian Studies  
Associate Professor of Bible**

B.A., Southwest Baptist University, 2005

M.Div., Duke University, 2008

Ph.D., University of Otago, 2012

2020

**SONJA GREEN**

**2021**

**Assistant Professor of Nursing**

B.S.N., Maryville University, 2016

M.S.N., Central Methodist University, 2020

**JOHN HAN**

**1999**

**Associate Dean of the School of Humanities and Theology**

**Professor of English and Creative Writing**

**Editor: *Intégrité: A Faith and Research Journal***

**Editor: *Cantos: A Literary and Arts Journal***

**Editor: *Fireflies' Light: A Magazine of Short Poems***

**Editor: *The Right Words: A Magazine of Nonfiction***

**Editor: *Proceedings of the Annual MBU Faith and Research Conference***

B.A., Kookmin University, 1979

M.Ed., Yonsei University, 1986

M.A., Kansas State University, 1991

Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1998

Writing Certificate in English, Missouri Baptist University, 2007

**AMY HARRISON**

**2016**

**Director of the Higher Education Leadership Program**

**Assistant Professor of Higher Education Leadership**

A.A., Jefferson College, 2006

B.A., Lee University, 2009

M.A.T., Lee University, 2011

M.A., Southeast Missouri State University, 2012

Ph.D., Saint Louis University, 2016

**JOE DONALD HEATH** **2015**

**Special Lecturer in Corporate Security Leadership and Criminal Justice**

A.A., Jacksonville College, 1977

B.A.S., Stephen F. Austin State University, 1979

M.Ed., Stephen F. Austin State University, 1983

Ph.D., Dallas Baptist University, 2011

M.S.C.J., Missouri Baptist University, 2014

**TARA HOMMELSON** **2018**

**Director of Graduate Programs**

**Assistant Professor of Nursing**

B.S.N., Maryville University, 2008

M.S.N., University of Missouri-Saint Louis, 2013

**DAWN HUBER** **2019**

**Biology Lab Coordinator and Program Coordinator for Biomedical Sciences**

**Assistant Professor of Biology**

B.S., Logan University, 2005

D.C., Logan College of Chiropractic, 1989

**LINDA "NIKKI" JOHNSON** **2005**

**Associate Dean of the School of Social Work**

**Associate Professor of Social Work**

B.A., Missouri Baptist University, 1998

M.S.W., St. Louis University, 2002

Ph.D., Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois-Chicago, 2016

**JASON JORDAN, L.P.C.** **2018**

**Assistant Director of Counselor Education**

**Assistant Professor of Counselor Education**

B.S.B.A., Tennessee Technological University, 1993

M.A.C., Trevecca Nazarene University, 2010

Ph.D., Trevecca Nazarene University, 2016

**JASON B. KAMINSKY** **2019**

**Associate Dean of the School of Accounting, Business Administration, and Technology**

**Assistant Professor of Management**

B.S., University of Missouri-St. Louis, 1983  
M.I.M., Washington University, 1990  
M.B.A., Washington University, 1991  
D.Mgt., Webster University, 2010

**KAREN KANNENBERG** **1994**  
**Dean of the College of Business and Entrepreneurship**  
**Professor of Accounting and Business Administration**  
B.M., Shorter College, 1985  
M.A., Webster University, 1994  
D.Mgt., Webster University, 1999

**KAJ KAYIJ-WINT** **2022**  
**Associate Professor of Counselor Education**  
B.A., Providence College, 2005  
M.A., Saint Martin's College, 2011  
Ph.D., Oregon State University, 2018

**JAMES B. KELLOGG** **1992**  
**Director of Criminal Justice**  
**Associate Professor of Criminal Justice**  
B.A., Missouri Baptist College, 1974  
M.A., Webster University, 1990

**MARK KIMZEY** **1996**  
**Public and Community Health Program Director**  
**Assistant Professor of Health and Movement Sciences**  
A.S., North Greenville College, 1988  
B.A., Missouri Baptist College, 1990  
M.Div., Covenant Theological Seminary, 1994  
M.S.Ed., Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, 2006

**STEPHANIE KONTRIM-BAUMANN** **2004**  
**Associate Dean of the School of Management and Marketing**  
**Assistant Professor of Marketing and Business Administration**  
B.A., University of Pennsylvania, 1990  
M.B.A., Washington University, 1998

**AARON LUMPKIN** **2017**  
**Associate Vice President for Spiritual Formation**  
**Assistant Professor of Theology**  
B.A., Liberty University, 2010  
M.Div., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2013  
Ph.D., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2020

<p><b>JASON MALLORY</b>  <b>Director of Vocal Studies and Opera Theatre</b>  <b>Associate Professor of Music</b>  B.M., University of Southern California, 2004  M.M., University of Louisville, 2006  D.M.A., University of Iowa, 2014</p>	<p><b>2017</b></p>
<p><b>CURTIS K. MCCLAIN, JR.</b>  <b>Professor of Bible</b>  B.A., Howard Payne University, 1977  M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1980  Ph.D., Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 1995</p>	<p><b>1988</b></p>
<p><b>C. ALLIN MEANS</b>  <b>Associate Dean of the School of Communications</b>  <b>Director of the Faith and Research Conference</b>  <b>Professor of Journalism and Communications</b>  B.A., Baylor University, 1986  M.A., University of West Florida, 1998  Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi, 2010</p>	<p><b>2011</b></p>
<p><b>ALONZO MEDCALF</b>  <b>Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Communications</b>  B.S., Missouri Southern State University, 2010  M.A., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2016</p>	<p><b>2018</b></p>
<p><b>KANISHA MOYE</b>  <b>Instructor of Social Work</b>  B.A., University of Missouri St. Louis, 2011  M.S.W., University of Missouri St. Louis, 2015  Ph.D., Capella University, 2015</p>	<p><b>2021</b></p>
<p><b>ROBIN MURRAY</b>  <b>Associate Dean of Nursing</b>  <b>Director of Undergraduate Programs</b>  <b>Associate Professor of Nursing</b>  B.S.N., Indiana University, 1997  M.S.N., Webster University, 2003  D.N.P., American Sentinel University, 2019</p>	<p><b>2017</b></p>
<p><b>ALICIA NICHOLS</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Nursing</b></p>	<p><b>2021</b></p>



B.S.N, Chamberlain University, 2008  
M.S.N., University of Missouri- Sinclair, 2014

**ALICIA NODDINGS** **2013**  
**Associate Dean of School of Accreditation, Assessment, and Faculty Development**  
**Professor of Education**  
B.S., Baylor University, 1990  
B.M., Baylor University, 1994  
M.A., Concordia University Chicago, 1999  
Ph.D., Saint Louis University, 2012

**KRISTEN NUGENT** **2021**  
**Associate Professor of Social Work**  
B.S.W., California University, 1992  
M.S.W., West Virginia University, 1993  
Ph.D., Walden University, 1999

**JULIE OOMS** **2014**  
**Associate Professor of English**  
B.A., Dordt College, 2008  
Ph.D., Baylor University, 2014

**DAVID PIERCE** **2004**  
**Assistant Professor of Health and Movement Sciences**  
B.S.E., Lakeland College-Sheboygan, 1970  
M.S.S., United States Sports Academy, 1989

**SHAYANI PIERIS** **2012**  
**Program Coordinator for Ecology and Plant Sciences**  
**Professor of Plant Sciences**  
B.Sc., University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1997  
Ph.D., Iowa State University, 2007

**JANET K. PULS, L.C.S.W.** **2000**  
**Associate Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences**  
**Professor of Psychology and Human Services**  
B.A., Maryville University, 1997  
M.S.W., Saint Louis University, 1999  
Ph.D., Walden University, 2011

**KATHRYN PUPILLO** **2019**  
**Associate Professor of Accounting**  
B.S., University of Missouri St. Louis, 2003  
M.S., Maryville University of St. Louis, 2018

<p><b>AMBER PYATT</b>  <b>Dean of the College of Science and Health</b>  <b>Founding Dean of the School of Nursing</b>  <b>Associate Professor of Nursing</b>  B.S., Southeast Missouri State University, 2006  B.S.N., Newman University, 2010  M.S.N., University of Cincinnati, 2014  D.N.P., American Sentinel University, 2016</p>	<p><b>2016</b></p>
<p><b>PHILLIP RAGUSKY</b>  <b>Director of Field Placement</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Education</b>  B.S.Ed., University of Missouri, 1987  M.Ed., University of Missouri- Saint Louis, 1994  Education Specialist, University of Missouri- Saint Louis, 2012</p>	<p><b>2020</b></p>
<p><b>JANNA RAMSEY</b>  <b>Special Lecturer for Counselor Education</b>  B.A., Samford University, 1991  M.A., Tennessee State University, 2006  Ph.D., Trevecca Nazarene University, 2019</p>	<p><b>2022</b></p>
<p><b>KENDRA RAY</b>  <b>Associate Dean of the School of Teacher Education</b>  <b>Instructor of Education</b>  B.S., Southwest Baptist University, 2002  M.S., Walden University, 2017</p>	<p><b>2019</b></p>
<p><b>LAURA RIBEIRO</b>  <b>Instructor of Social Work</b>  B.S., Missouri Baptist University, 2008  M.S.W., University of Missouri- Saint Louis, 2010</p>	<p><b>2021</b></p>
<p><b>KRISTY ROBERTS</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Education</b>  B.S.Ed., University of Missouri-Columbia, 1993  M.Ed., National-Louis University, 1997  Ed.D., Maryville University, 2008</p>	<p><b>2020</b></p>
<p><b>BRYANNA SCHERER</b>  <b>Simulation Coordinator</b>  <b>Assistant Professor of Nursing</b></p>	<p><b>2020</b></p>

B.S., Elmhurst College, 2014  
B.S.N., University of Tennessee, 2016  
M.S.N., Maryville University, 2020

**DAVID B. SMITH** 1998

**Assistant Professor of Mathematics**

B.S.E., Illinois State University, 1975  
M.S., Illinois State University, 1981

**LARRY SMITH** 1998

**Director – MBU Honors**

**Professor of Music**

B.M.E., Baylor University, 1979  
M.M., Southwest Texas State University, 1986  
D.M.A., Arizona State University, 1998

**JANICE A. SPECK** 2008

**Associate Professor of Counselor Education**

B.S., University of Missouri-Columbia, 1977  
M.Ed., University of Missouri-St. Louis, 1979  
Ed.S., Missouri Baptist University, 2010  
Ed.D., Missouri Baptist University, 2013

**JULIE STEINBECK** 2020

**Director of First-Year Composition**

**Instructor of English**

B.A., Truman State University, 2013  
M.A., Truman State University, 2015

**LYDIA THEBEAU** 2005

**Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities**

**Vice President for Academic Affairs and Accreditation**

**Professor of Biology**

B.A., Hannibal-LaGrange College, 1995  
Ph.D., Saint Louis University, 2002

**EDDIE USCHOLD** 1999

**Associate Director of Athletics, Outdoor Facilities**

**Head Baseball Coach**

**Instructor of Health and Movement Sciences**

B.A., Baldwin-Wallace College, 1990  
M.A., Kent State University, 1992

**MARY S. VEDAMUTHU** 2004

**Associate Dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**  
**Graduate Program Coordinator**  
**Professor of Chemistry**

B.S., University of Madras, 1982  
M.S., University of Madras, 1985  
Ph.D., Texas Tech University, 1996

**JASON VERMETTE**

**2015**

**Program Coordinator for Mathematics**  
**Associate Professor of Mathematics**

B.S., Oral Roberts University, 2008  
M.S., University of Tulsa, 2010  
Ph.D., University of Delaware, 2015

**WM. SHANE WILLIAMS**

**2015**

**Director of Bands**  
**Associate Professor of Music**

B.S.Ed., Austin Peay State University, 1984  
M.M., St. Louis Conservatory of Music, 1986  
M.M., University of Missouri-Columbia, 1997  
ABD: Lindenwood University

**PAUL WILSON**

**2021**

**Special Lecturer in Biology**

B.S., Missouri State University, 2004  
D.P.M., Des Moines University, 2008