2023-24
NEW FACULTY
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This year, the College of Engineering at North Carolina State University welcomes 44 new faculty members. I am honored to be a part of this accomplished group as I join the faculty as both a professor and as the Louis Martin-Vega Dean of Engineering. This talented and distinguished group is joining our exceptional faculty at an especially exciting time for our College as we grow our student body to meet our society’s increasing need for adept, thoughtful engineers and computer scientists. Together, we are looking forward to building on our strengths, expanding our research infrastructure and broadening our educational opportunities for all of our students.

On behalf of our College, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our departments’ faculty recruiting committees and to our department heads for all the work they’ve done to attract this outstanding group of new faculty members. Their expertise and insight are vital. I would also like to acknowledge the significant support we have received from the state of North Carolina and from NC State University to facilitate this recruitment process, as well as to support our College’s growth and future accomplishments.

Finally, to our new faculty members, welcome to your exciting new chapter, and thank you for joining our College. All of us at the NC State College of Engineering are committed to supporting your pursuit of excellence in research and teaching, encouraging your goals and dreams, and helping you reach new heights in your careers.

Sincerely,

Jim Pfaendtner, Ph.D.
Louis Martin-Vega Dean and Professor
Sarah E. Shelton received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in environmental science and engineering from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She completed a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from the Joint Program in Biomedical Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University. She was a postdoctoral fellow and research associate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Department of Biological Engineering and at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in the Department of Medical Oncology.

Currently, Shelton’s work focuses on developing microphysiological systems, also known as organ-on-chip models, to investigate how tissue-specific interactions between cells and their environment influence health and disease. In particular, she is interested in unraveling the immune microenvironment in cancer to more accurately predict response to therapy. Her work centers on building microfluidic devices for generating vascularized micro-tissues that incorporate cells and tissues from patients, and then leveraging imaging and molecular biology tools to analyze the functional and biological behavior of these models.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
Ange-Therese Akono received a Diplome D’Ingénieur from the Ecole Polytechnique in Palaiseau, France. She received an M.Sc. and a Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston. She was an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, she was an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

Presently, she studies fracture processes in multifunctional, multiscale and multi-physics materials while focusing on small length-scales. In terms of energy science and engineering, she investigates sustainable energy resources such as unconventional resource production, geologic storage of carbon dioxide and clean energy. In terms of construction materials, she studies novel ways to reduce the carbon footprint of the cement industry by using nanomaterials, recycling concrete or discovering low-embodied energy cement-free binders. Another topic is the study of biomaterials for bone regenerative engineering.

Akono has received several awards including the Johnson & Johnson Women in STEM 2D Award in 2022, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Leonardo da Vinci Award in 2021, the Royal Society International Exchange Scheme Award in 2019 and the ASCE New Faces of Civil Engineering Professionals Award in 2016.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


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Danjue Chen received her Ph.D. from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta in 2012 and B.S. in environmental science from Peking University in Beijing in 2007. She was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to joining North Carolina State University, she was an assistant, and then associate, professor at the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Chen’s expertise lies in traffic science and transportation engineering. Her research interests include testing, modeling and control of connected and automated vehicles; traffic flow theory; human-cyber-physical-system of smart vehicles; and smart cities. She integrates analytical, numerical and experimental methods in her research. Chen is a founding member of the Transportation Research Board subcommittee on “traffic flow modeling for connected and automated vehicles.” She received the National Science Foundation CAREER award in 2020.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

ANDERSON R. DE QUEIROZ

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL, CONSTRUCTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Anderson R. de Queiroz received his B.Sc. in 2005 and M.Sc. in 2007 in electrical engineering from Federal University of Itajubá (UNIFEI) in the state of Minas Gerais in Brazil. He has a Ph.D. in operations research from the University of Texas at Austin (2011). He is an associate professor at the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at North Carolina State University, where he is a member of the computing & systems group and NC State’s Operations Research graduate program.

Prior to joining NC State, he worked as a professor at UNIFEI and at North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, as a consultant and as a researcher for more than a decade. He is interested in the synergy of data and computational innovation to inform strategic decision-making. He focuses on optimization under uncertainty, data-driven methods and predictive analytics applied to planning, operations and economics in clean and sustainable energy systems, water-energy nexus, coastal engineering and biosecurity.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


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JESSICA KAMINSKY

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL, CONSTRUCTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Jessica Kaminsky received her B.S. in civil engineering from Rice University in Houston. She received her Ph.D. in civil engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, she was an associate professor at the University of Washington.

Kaminsky studies the social sustainability of infrastructure. Presently, her work is focused on the decarbonization of infrastructure. Kaminsky also studies infrastructure systems in lower and middle income contexts, with a particular interest in water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


JACELYN RICE-BOAYUE

Jacelyn Rice-Boayue completed postdoctoral training at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, within the Center for the Environmental Implications of Nanotechnology. During that time, she also served as a Fulbright Scholar at the International Institute of Water and Environmental Engineering in Burkina Faso, where she researched and taught courses in the water and sanitation program. She earned her B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and M.S. and Ph.D. in civil, sustainable, and environmental engineering from Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, she was an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Her research group aims to provide new understanding and solutions to foster sustainable water resource management. Rice-Boayue’s research combines modeling, analytical and social science capabilities to examine water quality, environmental health and contaminants, and environmental justice. Much of her work focuses on environmental and human health exposures to wastewater-derived emerging contaminants through model-informed surveillance and field studies.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- Integrated water resource management
- Water quality and treatment
- Cross-cultural research
- Participatory geographic information systems

JORGE E. SAN JUAN

Jorge E. San Juan earned a B.S. in civil engineering from the Universidad de Cartagena in Cartagena, Colombia. He then received an M.S. and Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign at the Ven Te Chow Hydrosystems Lab. San Juan was a postdoctoral associate at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geoengineering at the St. Anthony Falls Lab.

His research interests focus on the physical and engineering role of coastal ecosystems altering water currents, sediment transport and the geomorphological evolution of coasts. San Juan investigates the impact of vegetation on waves and currents and its effect on sediment transport. He has recently worked on mud erosion mechanisms driven by water salinity changes.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


TONGCHUAN WEI

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL, CONSTRUCTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Tongchuan Wei is a research assistant professor in the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at North Carolina State University. His research interests include measurement and modeling of energy use and air pollutant emissions of on-road and non-road vehicles, transportation related air quality impacts on environmental justice, air quality and associated environmental risk assessment, and engineering cost modeling.

Presently, Wei is engaged in research projects including the quantification and assessment of emissions from North Carolina ferry vessels; assessment of environmental justice and historical transportation impacts in North Carolina; evaluation of techno-economic feasibility of decarbonization energy pathways for U.S. freight rail; and quantification of the burden of disease attributable to ambient air pollution and climate change in the United Arab Emirates.

Wei has a bachelor of engineering in environmental engineering from the University of Jinan, China, a master of engineering in environmental engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology, and a Ph.D. in civil engineering from NC State University.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


WESLEY KLEWERTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

GUEZ ASSUNÇÃO

Wesley Assunção received his B.S. in information systems from Faculdade Assis Gurgacz Toledo in the state of Paraná, Brazil, and his M.S. in informatics and Ph.D. in computer science both from Federal University of Paraná in Curitiba, Brazil. He was an associate professor at the Federal University of Technology – Paraná in Toledo, Brazil; a postdoctoral researcher at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro; and a senior researcher at the Johannes Kepler University in Linz, Austria.

Assunção is internationally recognized for his work on systematic reuse and variability management for software customization, modernization of legacy systems and software refactoring. Presently, he also studies the use of model-driven engineering to cope with complexity of software development and how teams of engineers collaborate. Most of his work is done in collaboration with international researchers, with several studies in partnership with industries. He has published over 100 papers, including premier conferences and journals in software engineering and artificial intelligence. Assunção has also been serving as reviewer and organizer for many conferences and journals.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


CAIO BATISTA DE MELO

Caio Batista de Melo received his B.S. and M.S. from the University of Brasilia and his Ph.D. from the University of California, Irvine. At UC Irvine, he also served as the instructor of record for lower- and upper-division courses during the academic year.

Batista’s research has focused on detecting and reasoning about emergent behaviors from both software and system perspectives. His most recent work has focused on autonomous vehicles and how emergent behavior provisions can be deployed in such a context. Additionally, Batista is highly interested in computer science education, with a particular interest in representation. At UC Irvine, he was one of the lead staff members of the CS1 course for four years, and he contributed to shaping the course so it was accessible to incoming students with all levels of experience.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


VERONICA CATETÉ

Veronica Cateté received her B.S. in computer science from North Carolina State University. She received her M.S. in computer science from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Ph.D. in computer science from NC State University. She was awarded both a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and a Microsoft Research Graduate Women in Computing Scholarship. Prior to joining the NC State faculty, she was a research scientist in the Department of Computer Science at NC State in the Game2Learn Lab.

Presently, she studies K-12 computer science education for middle and high school contexts. Specifically, she examines how to broaden participation in computing by adapting concepts from the frontiers of computer science (AI, cybersecurity, distributed computing, etc.) to be accessible and engaging for young women and students of color in rural areas. Cateté also studies teacher professional development and researches ways to support teachers in leading computing activities including providing data driven insights, differentiated curriculum and other assistive tools. Catete’s other project is leading field experiences for university students in engineering and computer science education locally in the Research Triangle and globally in Musanze, Rwanda. All of these endeavors are investigated using both theoretical foundations and mixed-methods field techniques.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


ABIDA H AQ U E

Abida Haque received her Ph.D. in computer science from North Carolina State University in 2023. Her research interests are in cryptography, with a particular focus on managing user anonymity, decentralizing trust and identifying gaps in current cryptographic schemes. Her work includes enhancing security definitions for ring and group signatures, as well as multi-party computation.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

CHIN HO L EE

Chin Ho Lee joined the North Carolina State University faculty in 2023 after completing his postdoctoral fellowships at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, from 2021-23 and at Columbia University in New York City from 2019-21. He received his Ph.D. in computer science in 2019 from Northeastern University in Boston, and his M.Phil. in computer science and engineering and B.Sc. in mathematics from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
Sharath Raghvendra completed his Ph.D. from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, in 2012. From 2012-14, he was a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. He joined the faculty at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia, in 2014 and was promoted to an associate professor in 2020.

His research is on the design of scalable algorithms for optimization problems. These algorithms can be used within application areas such as machine learning and logistics. His work has been published in top-tier conferences in theoretical computer science and machine learning, such as Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)-Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA), ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS), Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) and International Conference on Learning Representation (ICLR).

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


**RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

- Algorithm design
- Computational geometry and topology
- Graph theory
- Machine learning
- Operations research

Chandrika Satyavolu received her B.Tech. in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) from the Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology (DA-IICT) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India. She received her master’s in computer science from San José State University in San José, California, and a Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma. Her doctoral research is centered on wireless and mobile networks.

Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, Satyavolu worked as a teaching associate professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana. Before that, she worked for California State University, Monterey Bay and Oklahoma City University. She has also worked for Danger Inc. (acquired by Microsoft), Wind River Systems and Institutional Shareholder Services in Norman, Oklahoma. She completed a one-year University of California, Berkeley extension program — the Transforming STEM Teaching Faculty Learning Program, which supports faculty in exploring active learning approaches leading to greater student engagement. She has also participated in Google’s training workshop for the Computer Science Summer Institute at California State University, Monterey Bay.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

Kimberly J. Titus received her Ph.D. in physics from North Carolina State University in 1994 with her research focused on semiconductor materials for blue LEDs and lasers. She received a B.S. in physics and a B.A. in mathematics in 1989 from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida.

Titus was a visiting assistant professor in textile engineering at the NC State College of Textiles from 1994-98, developing sensor technology for the apparel and airbag industries. She was an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at High Point University in High Point, North Carolina, from 2007-23, teaching a variety of applied mathematics and programming courses.

Her research interests include computer science and data science education. Her research focuses on developing tools and tutorials for programming students in C, C++, R and Python for effective education of the next generation of computer scientists. She is very excited to return to the Wolfpack family as an associate teaching professor of computer science.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Wujie Wen received his B.S. degree in electrical and computer engineering from Beijing Jiaotong University in Beijing; M.S. degree in communication engineering from Tsinghua University in Beijing; and his Ph.D. degree in computer engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, he was an assistant professor and then a tenured associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

His current research efforts include efficient, reliable, secure and privacy-preserving computing, particularly from the aspects of software-hardware co-design and electronic design automation (EDA), as well as their applications to embedded, IoTs, smart medical and intelligent cyber-physical systems. His group has published more than 40 papers on top-tier CSRankings conference venues, including 18 times at the Design Automation Conference (DAC), 12 times at the International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (ICCAD) and at others. Wen received best paper nominations from all four major EDA conferences. He served as the general chair and program chair of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society Annual Symposium on Very large-scale Integration (ISVLSI) in 2018 and 2019, respectively. He is now serving as an associate editor of Neurocomputing and IEEE Circuit and Systems Magazine. His research is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Air Force Research Laboratory and others (over $4.5M). He is a recipient of the NSF Faculty Early Career Award.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


DOMINIK WERMKE

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, Dominik Wermke was a researcher at CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security and part of the TeamUSEC research group for human-centered security. He received his Dr. rer. nat. (Ph.D. equivalent) in computer science from Leibniz University Hannover, in Hannover, Germany, and both a M.Sc. and B.Sc. from Saarland University in Saarbrücken, Germany.

His research enables developers and administrators to deploy secure, privacy-respecting and trustworthy software that benefits the security of hundreds of dependent code bases, thousands of real-world deployments and millions of end users. His research leverages this multiplicative effect by supporting open source maintainers, developers and system administrators in the shared endeavor toward a more secure and trustworthy software ecosystem.

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- Usable security, supporting software experts, software supply chain, open source ecosystem
- Designing secure and user-friendly systems, developing tools to assist software professionals, enhancing transparency and trust in the software supply chain, improving collaboration and security in open source communities

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


BOWEN XU

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, Bowen Xu was a postdoctoral researcher at Singapore Management University. His research area is software engineering (SE). Particularly, his research interests lie in SE, machine learning and program analysis. The primary aims of his work are to improve software quality and developers’ productivity.

Presently, he focuses more on proposing effective large language models for SE tasks and at the same time, making those models more secure, robust and efficient. He has published works in top-tier software engineering conferences and journals. His works have been nominated for the Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Software Engineering’s Distinguished Paper Award, which is for the top 10 percent among all accepted submissions, as well as won the Highly Commended Full Paper Award, which is the second-best among all accepted submissions, and the Honorable Mention Award.

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- Large language model for coding
- Artificial intelligence (AI) model security for software engineering
- Software text analytics
- Bug and vulnerability analysis

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


CHENHAN XU

Assistant Professor
Ph.D. (2023)
University at Buffalo

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- IoT/Mobile computing
- Wireless and wearable sensing and computing
- Human-computer interface
- Biometrics
- Mobile health
- Cybersecurity

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Chenhan Xu received his Ph.D. in computer science and engineering from the University at Buffalo in Buffalo, New York. Before that, he received a B.Eng. in network engineering from Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications, China. His research interests lie in the intersection between Internet of Things (IoT), cybersecurity, physiological science and smart health. Presently, Xu’s research focuses on modeling, designing, building and evaluating end-to-end sensing and computing systems that aim for precise, broad-spectrum, intelligent and secure human-computer interaction (HCI) and personalized healthcare.

He has published more than 30 research papers in high-impact venues for mobile computing (including MobiCom, the International Conference On Mobile Computing and Networking; MobiSys, the International Conference on Mobile Systems, Applications, and Service; and SenSys, Conference on Embedded Networked Sensor Systems); for human-computer interaction (UbiComp, the premier conference for Ubiquitous Computing, and CHI, the Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems); for smart health / bioinformatics (including the International Conference on Healthcare Informatics (ICHI) and the Conference on Connected Health: Applications, Systems and Engineering Technologies); and for security (Network and Distributed System Security Symposium). He is the recipient of the Best Student Paper Award at ICHI and Best Paper Awards at MobiSys; SenSys; GlobeCom, the Global Communications Conference; and the International Conference on Communications.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

*Equal contribution

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Demity Farfurnik received his B.Sc. in mathematics and physics and his M.Sc. in physics from Tel-Aviv University in Tel-Aviv, Israel. He received his Ph.D. in physics from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, he was a postdoctoral associate at the Institute for Research in Electronics and Applied Physics and the Joint Quantum Institute at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

Presently, Farfurnik studies fundamental science and develops novel quantum technologies utilizing optically-active spin systems in the solid-state such as quantum dots and color centers. He implements experimental protocols that control, probe and improve the quantum properties of spins systems, thereby boosting the capabilities of such systems for sensing and studies of many-body dynamics. Farfurnik also couples optically-active spins to fabricated photonic structures, thereby establishing essential building blocks of future quantum networks.

Assistant Professor
Ph.D. (2019)
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- Spin physics
- Quantum photonics
- Quantum dots
- Color centers
- Quantum simulation, communication and sensing utilizing solid-state spins
- Quantum many-body dynamics
- Foundations of quantum mechanics
- Weak quantum measurements
Fu-Chen Hsiao received his B.S. in physics from the National Taiwan Normal University in New Taipei, Taiwan, in 2010, M.S. in photonics from the National Cheng Kung University in Tainan, Taiwan in 2012, and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2021. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, he was a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at NC State.

Hsiao’s research focuses on semiconductor material and device physics. His research encompasses the modeling of electronic, optical and transport properties of semiconductors and nanostructures, photonic integrated circuits and semiconductor optoelectronic devices. Currently, his work revolves around investigating the non-radiative recombination process in III-Nitride-based heterostructures to achieve high-speed and high-efficiency LEDs, and the design of high-temperature and high-efficiency III-As/P Laser diodes. He is also engaged in the development of broad spectrum photonic integrated circuits in visible light regime based on wide bandgap semiconductors.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Fu-Chen Hsiao, Arnab Hazari, Yia Chung Chang, Pallab Bhattacharya, and John M. Dallesasse. “Modeling photocurrent spectra of high indium content InGaN disk in wire photodiode on silicon substrate.” Physica E: Low dimensional Systems and Nanostructures 144 (2022): 115371.


Alyssa Kody received her Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 2019. Prior to joining North Carolina State University, she was a Maria Goeppert Mayer Fellow at Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Illinois, in the Energy Systems and Infrastructure Analysis Division. She was named a 2022 Rising Star in EECs, and her graduate work was supported by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Program and a Rackham Merit Fellowship. Her research focuses on developing control and optimization algorithms for power and energy systems.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


YUAN LIU

Yuan Liu received his B.S. in physics from Tsinghua University in Beijing. He received his M.S. in electrical engineering and a Ph.D. in chemical physics from Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, he was a postdoctoral researcher in the Research Laboratory of Electronics and Department of Physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston.

Presently, he studies quantum and classical algorithms to solve challenging problems in quantum chemistry, chemical physics and material science, including correlated electronic structure and real-time dynamics. Liu also studies protocols to leverage continuous-variable quantum systems such as bosonic oscillators for computation, information processing and sensing. Another topic is the study of algorithmic-level quantum error correction. These topics are investigated from theoretical and computational perspectives, with possible experimental collaborations.

Liu is an assistant professor in both the NC State Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Department of Computer Science.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


*Corresponding Author

ADOLFO R. ESCOBEDO

Adolfo R. Escobedo is an associate professor in the Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina State University, where he also is a member of the Operations Research graduate program. Escobedo received his B.A. in mathematics from California State University, Los Angeles in 2009 and his Ph.D. in industrial and systems engineering in 2016 from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Prior to joining the NC State faculty, he was an assistant professor in the Industrial Engineering program of the School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona.

Escobedo’s research centers on the development of operations research and computational methods and is driven by modern societal challenges. His current work addresses various problems in the development of sustainable infrastructures, including planning and operation of power systems to withstand environmental stressors, design of rural-urban recycling systems and service territory districting. His other ongoing research efforts include the development of social choice-inspired methodologies for improving outcomes in group decision-making and crowdsourcing as well as the design of numerical linear algebra algorithms for increasing the reliability of optimization solvers.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Jordan Kern is an assistant professor in the Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina State University. He also has graduate faculty appointments in NC State’s Operations Research graduate program and the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering. Kern is a three-time graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — a B.S. in environmental science and M.S. and Ph.D. in environmental engineering. His group’s research tries to advance optimal design and management of low-to-zero carbon energy systems, with a special focus on: 1) building high resolution models of real-world energy systems; 2) simulating system dynamics under uncertainty and stress; and 3) informing optimal decision making around capital investment and short-term operations. His group’s research has been featured frequently in the national media, including NPR, LA Times, Vox and TIME. Since 2016, his group has received $3.16 million in extramurally funded research awards (part of $43 million in total collaborative funds). In 2022, he received the National Science Foundation CAREER award.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Fred Livingston received his Ph.D. from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at North Carolina State University in 2014. Before joining the NC State faculty, he was a principal robotic engineer for defense contractors. He developed autonomous solutions for health systems, maritime systems, precision agriculture and search and rescue for the Department of Defense. Livingston’s research focuses on multi-agent cyber-physical systems and their algorithms, enabling them to make intelligent decisions for real-world applications in active and uncertain environments. He explores the integration of cutting-edge technologies like decentralized sensor fusion, edge computing, machine learning, robot manipulation, advanced control and computer vision for advanced autonomy. The integration of these disciplines necessitates cross-disciplinary collaboration from all branches of engineering.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
ZHUOTING (APRIL) YU
EDWARD P. FITTS DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Zhuoting (April) Yu received her Ph.D. and M.S. in operations research from the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. She received her B.S. in statistics from the School of Mathematical Sciences, Nankai University in Tianjin, China.

Yu’s research interests focus on stochastic modeling and optimization, with applications to health systems and queueing systems. Her recent works address a wide range of real-world problems, including childhood immunization scheduling optimization, vaccine pricing, infectious disease control, and liver transplantation.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

ALEXEY GULYUK
DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Alexey Gulyuk received his B.S. in engineering physics from the Belarusian State University in Minsk, Belarus. He received his M.S. in physics from North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, and a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from North Carolina State University. He is a part of the Science and Technologies for Phosphorus Sustainability (STEPS) Center, a National Science Foundation Science and Technologies Center, at NC State. Prior to joining the faculty, he was a postdoctoral researcher in the Yingling Research Group at NC State.

Presently, he studies the problematics of gathering, storage, sharing and analysis of big amounts of heterogeneous data. This research involves such novel concepts as convergence informatics addressing issues of phosphorus sustainability. Gulyuk has experience in the development, characterization and analysis of biocompatible materials like wide-bandgap semiconducting biointerfaces for purposes including biosensing and bioelectronics. Gulyuk’s research background incorporates both theory and experimental techniques.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
MARTIN SEIFRID

DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Martin Seifrid received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he worked in the Center for Polymers and Organic Solids under the supervision of Professor Guillermo C. Bazan. His doctoral research involved investigating the relationship between molecular design and solid-state structure and properties of organic semiconducting materials.

Seifrid conducted his postdoctoral research with Professor Alán Aspuru-Guzik at the University of Toronto where he developed self-driving laboratories, and worked on autonomous molecular design, automated synthesis and characterization for organic lasing materials.

He is joining the North Carolina State University Department of Materials Science and Engineering as an assistant professor. His group will develop self-driving laboratories — automated experiments guided by machine learning — and leverage them to design precisely controlled organic mixed ionic-electronic conducting materials with applications in sensing, energy storage, healthcare and neuromorphic computing.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


SAJJAD BIGHAM

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Sajjad Bigham is an associate professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at North Carolina State University. Prior to joining NC State in January 2023, he was the Lou and Herbert Wacker Associate Professor and the director of the Energy-Thermal-Fluid (ETF) area in the Department of Mechanical Engineering – Engineering Mechanics at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan from 2016-22. He received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida.

Bigham is the group leader of the Energy-X Lab (Energy eXploration Laboratory) at NC State. He has 15 years of experience in thermally activated technologies and energy efficiency R&D. His research group, Energy-X Lab, is an interdisciplinary research laboratory striving to establish a high-impact research and education program for tackling high-risk, high-reward problems. He has extensive experience in managing large, interdisciplinary, multi-institutional collaborative research efforts sponsored by the Department of Energy’s Building Technologies Office / Solar Energy Technologies Office, Advanced Research Projects Agency–Energy, Department of Defense, NASA and industry, among others. He has over 65 peer-reviewed journal and conference publications, one book chapter and three U.S. patents.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


James Braun is an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at North Carolina State University, where he is leading the research group BE-FAST (Braun’s Engineering Factory for Advanced Supersonic Technologies). He received his Ph.D. in 2019 from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. He received his master’s degree at the KU Leuven in Belgium in 2014 and performed a research master in 2015 at the von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics in Sint-Genesius-Rode Belgium. Prior to joining NC State, he was an assistant research professor at Purdue. He did a postdoc at Purdue and was an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) fellow working with the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL).

His research interests include novel supersonic propulsion concepts for airbreathing and aerospace applications, through wind tunnel experiments and computational fluid dynamic (CFD) simulations. He is actively working on rotating detonation technology, multi-phase modeling and bladeless power extraction technology.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Darius Carter received his B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017. He also received a Ph.D. in mechanical and aerospace engineering from the University of Virginia in 2021. He was a President’s Postdoctoral Fellow in the Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta under Juergen Rauleder from 2021 to 2023. During his postdoctoral fellowship, he was an instructor for the department’s aerodynamics course.

Carter’s current research involves understanding near-boundary flight regimes for multicopter vehicles. Near boundary flight has both performance benefits and penalties for a rotorcraft vehicle. His research looks to unlock the underlying aerodynamics to optimize the performance benefits for a vehicle in near-boundary flight. He also is currently investigating aerodynamic interactions of a multicopter, whether between two vehicles or multiple rotors interacting on a single platform. His research is done experimentally using wind tunnels and hover platforms.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


CHUYI CHEN

Assistant Professor
Ph.D. (2021)
Duke University

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Chuyi Chen received her Ph.D. degree in mechanical engineering and materials science at Duke University, and her M.S. and B.S. degrees in acoustics from Nanjing University. Prior to joining NC State, Chen was a postdoctoral fellow in the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She is the recipient of the Ludwig Center Postdoctoral Fellowship. Chen has published over 20 articles in journals such as Nature Materials, Nature Communications, Science Advances, PNAS, ACS Nano and Lab on a Chip. Her research focuses on acoustics, fluid dynamics, micro/nano systems, metamaterials, sensing and imaging with applications in healthcare, biology, materials and manufacturing.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


VEERARAGHAVA RAJU HASTI

Assistant Research Professor
Ph.D. (2019)
Purdue University

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Veeraraghava Raju Hasti received his M.S. and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in 2016 and 2019, respectively, from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Prior to joining North Carolina State University’s faculty, he was a research assistant professor at Purdue. Hasti is serving as vice chair of the Gas Turbine Engines Technical Committee of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). He is an associate editor of the journal Frontiers in Aerospace Engineering and an associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Hasti’s research is focused on the development of transformational digital tools and technologies using physics-based and data-driven approaches to enable connected, resilient, reliable, safe and affordable energy and propulsion systems for a sustainable future.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

MOHAMMAD HEIRANIAN

Assistant Professor
Ph.D. (2020)
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- Nanofluidics and membrane processes with applications in water security, energy and environment
- Multiscale modeling and machine learning techniques to understand interfacial fluidic behavior for creating advanced technologies at the interface between fluid dynamics and nanoscience

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

DONGGUN LEE

Assistant Professor
Ph.D. (2022)
University of California, Berkeley

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
- Control frameworks to combine optimal control, game theory and machine learning for safety-critical applications, including autonomous driving, aerial and ground vehicles, power systems and battery charging
- Computationally efficient control schemes
- Hardware-software codesign

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
LIMING XIONG

Liming Xiong received his B.Sc. degree in 2001 and M.Sc. degree in 2004 in engineering mechanics and solid mechanics from Dalian University of Technology and Huazhong University of Science & Technology in Dalian, China. He also earned a M.Sc. degree in 2006 in materials science from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and then a Ph.D. in 2011 in mechanical and aerospace engineering from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. Prior to joining North Carolina State University in 2023, he worked from 2014 to 2022 as an assistant and then a tenured associate professor at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

Xiong is interested in a fusion of atomistic and multiscale computational mechanics with the physics/chemistry of materials in their manufacturing, characterization, testing and applications. He focuses on the development of massively parallelized computational tools that can predict the mechanical, thermal and mass transport behavior in a variety of engineering materials such as metals, alloys, ceramics, polymers and composites when exposed to extreme stresses, temperature, irradiation, corrosion and even a combination of them.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


MARY ZADEH

Mary Zadeh is an assistant teaching professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at North Carolina State University. She earned her Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Michigan Tech University in Houghton, Michigan.

Prior to joining NC State, she was an assistant teaching professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics at Michigan Tech University where she was recognized as the 2021-22 Teacher of the Year Finalist.

Zadeh’s specialties include optical and laser-based diagnostics, image processing methodologies, thermodynamic modeling and spark ignition characterization.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Zeinab Alsmadi earned her B.Sc. in nuclear engineering from Jordan University of Science and Technology in Irbid, Jordan, in 2016, master of materials science and engineering (MMSE) from North Carolina State University in 2020 and Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from NC State in 2020. She held a postdoctoral research scholar position in the Department of Nuclear Engineering at NC State from 2020 to 2023. She has extensive expertise and several publications in the fields of nuclear materials science, radiation shielding and corrosion science.

Alsmadi’s research focuses on understanding the relationship between microstructure, processing, mechanical properties and functionality of materials for nuclear energy systems, and on the assessment of shielding and corrosion properties of single-layered and multi-layered coating barriers on the inner canister of spent nuclear fuel waste storage such as dry casks. It also focuses on the assessment of different stainless-steel alloys as candidate canister materials as well as candidate structural materials for other nuclear systems, to enhance their radiation shielding efficiency and corrosion resistance.

Alsmadi teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of introduction to nuclear energy, laboratory projects in nuclear engineering, particle material interaction and nuclear waste technology.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Wen Jiang received his B.S. and M.S. in aeronautic science and engineering from the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in Beijing, China. He received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering and materials science from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. He was a postdoctoral researcher in the Fuels Modeling and Simulation Department at Idaho National Laboratory. Prior to joining the North Carolina State University faculty, he was a computational scientist in the Computational Mechanics and Materials Department at the Idaho National Laboratory.

Jiang works on computational method development for nuclear material modeling and multi-physics simulation. He is a key developer for the BISON nuclear fuel simulation code, which won the R&D 100 Award in 2022, and he leads the development of open-source multi-scale additive manufacturing simulation code in the MOOSE Application Library for Advanced Manufacturing Utilities. In addition, he is actively contributing to the open-source MOOSE simulation framework, structural component aging simulation codes Grizzly and mesoscale microstructural evolution simulation code MARMOT. He currently leads the development of multi-scale TRI-structural ISOTropic (TRISO) particle fuels modeling for the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Nuclear Energy Advanced Modeling and Simulation program. He is also involved in DOE’s Advanced Gas Reactor (AGR) Fuel Development and Qualification Program where he performs TRISO fuel performance calculations with BISON in support of analysis of the AGR irradiation tests. He is fully engaged with nuclear reactor companies, including BWXT, Westinghouse, Kaires Power, USNC and Radiant, in support of their TRISO fuel qualification and licensing for commercialization.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

LISA MARSHALL

DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

Lisa Marshall holds an undergraduate degree in interdisciplinary studies from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada; a graduate certificate in geographic information systems (GIS) from North Carolina State University; a master’s degree in geography from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; completed the graduate certificate in engineering education; and is completing a doctoral degree in higher education (engineering focus) from NC State University. She is the inaugural director of outreach, retention and engagement in the Department of Nuclear Engineering at NC State from 2001 to present. She is also the inaugural Assistant Extension Professor within the College of Engineering and among national nuclear engineering programs. She has extensive experience in engineering education; energy geography; GIS; diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM; and academic affairs.

Marshall’s research focuses on nuclear engineering education for pre-college, college student success, co-curricular engineering education, diversity and inclusion in engineering education and engagement scholarship. She is the current vice president/president-elect for the American Nuclear Society, co-principal investigator on a U.S. Department of Energy-funded Consortium for Consent-based Siting of Interim Storage, and a member of several OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Global Forum Working Groups. She previously served as the educational outreach director for the U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)-funded Consortium for Nonproliferation Enabling Capabilities, and past Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) committee co-chair for the American Association of Geographers.

Marshall teaches introductory engineering undergraduate courses, as well as an upper level course in energy geographies.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

AMANDA MILLS

DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILE ENGINEERING, CHEMISTRY AND SCIENCE

Amanda Mills received her B.S. in mechanical engineering from Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi. She received her M.S. and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from North Carolina State University. Afterwards, she served as an industry project manager for the NEXT Research Lab at NC State. Mills joined the NC State Textile Engineering / Textile Technology Senior Design program as a program manager before transitioning to her current, co-director role.

Most recently, she was a research assistant professor of textile engineering and textile technology in the Department of Textile Engineering, Chemistry and Science.

Presently, she studies and develops innovative methods for electronics integration into textiles with the SHIFT lab. She creates full-system demonstration platforms to examine the impact of the textile structure and material on device performance and vice versa. She works to develop novel all-textile sensors and actuators for physiological monitoring, acoustic recording and thermal actuation among other applications. Other research activities include fabric simulation and modeling for digital design and virtual reality implementation.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS