



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

NEW FACULTY | 2018-19



U N I V E R S I T Y O F N E B R A S K A - L I N C O L N

BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Geng Bai Curtis Tomasevicz
Heidi Diefes-Dux

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Hau Chan Bonita Sharif

THE DURHAM SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION

Philip Barutha Iason Konstantzos
Kelli Herstein

ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Wei Bao Leimin Deng

MECHANICAL & MATERIALS ENGINEERING

Eric Markvicka Keegan Moore
Robert Wilhelm



GENG BAI

Research Assistant Professor
Biological Systems Engineering
East Campus

B.E., Hydraulic and Hydro-power Engineering,
China Agricultural University
M.E., Agricultural Soil & Water Engineering, China
Agricultural University
Ph.D., Environmental Science, Niigata University

Previous Experience

Soil-Plant-Environment monitoring; Center
pivot irrigation; Pesticide spraying; High-
throughput plant phenotyping

Research

Daily management and development of UNL
Field Plant Phenotyping Facility (Spidercam);
High throughput plant phenotyping in field and
greenhouse environment



WEI BAO

Assistant Professor
Electrical & Computer
Engineering
City Campus

B.A., Physics (minor in Chemistry), Peking University
M.S., Mechanical Engineering (minor in Electrical
Engineering), UCLA
Ph.D., Materials Science and Engineering (minor in
Electrical Engineering), University of
California, Berkeley

Previous Experience

Worked in nanoscale spectroscopic
investigations. Received several awards: MRS
Graduate Student Gold Award, Dorothy M. and
Earl S. Hoffman Scholarships, Ross N. Tucker
Memorial Award and a R&D 100 Award.

Research

Focuses on polaritonics lasing devices

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PHILIP BARUTHA

Assistant Professor
Durham School of Architectural
Engineering and Construction
City Campus

B.S., Civil/Construction Engineering, Montana
State University

M.S./Ph.D., Civil/Construction Engineering and
Management, Iowa State University

Previous Experience

12 years in project management and
engineering.

Project Manager for Mortenson Construction in
the Renewable Energy Group.

Research

Alternative project delivery to include
integrated project delivery and public private
partnerships, renewable and sustainable energy
and transportation asset management



LEIMIN DENG

Research Assistant Professor
Electrical & Computer Engineering
City Campus

B.S., Optical Information Sciences and Technology,
Harbin Institute of Technology

M.S., Physical Electronics, Huazhong University of
Science & Technology

Ph.D., Physical Electronics, Huazhong University of
Science & Technology

Research

Laser extreme manufacturing technology and
equipment; Cross-scale laser micro/nano machining;
Optical system design; 3D printing of metal



HAU CHAN

Assistant Professor
Computer Science and
Engineering
City Campus

B.S., Computer Science and Mathematics, College
of Charleston, S.C.

Ph.D., Computer Science, Stony Brook University,
New York

Previous Experience

Postdoctoral fellow in the Laboratory for
Innovation Science at Harvard (a joint lab with
the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied
Sciences, Business School, and Medical School)
- will continue to be an affiliated member of
the lab; Postdoctoral summer fellow at the
USC Center for Artificial Intelligence in Society;
Postdoctoral research associate (postdoc) at
Trinity University.

Research

Computational Game Theory, mechanism
design, algorithms, data/graph mining, machine
learning, discrete mathematics



HEIDI DIEFES-DUX

Professor
Biological Systems Engineering
East Campus

B.S., Food Science, Cornell University

M.S., Food Science, Cornell University

Ph.D., Agricultural & Biological Engineering - Food
Processing Engineering, Purdue University

Previous Experience

Professor of Engineering Education and First-
Year Engineering course instructor and curator
at Purdue University; Fulbright-Colombia
Specialist Grant; co-author of Models and
Modeling in Engineering Education

Research

Engineering education, specifically
development, implementation and
assessment of authentic engineering activities
(e.g. mathematical modeling, design) in
undergraduate settings, translation of current
technical research outputs to K-16 classroom
settings, and learning objective based
assessment strategies

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KELLI HERSTEIN

Assistant Professor of Practice
Durham School of Architectural
Engineering and Construction
Scott Campus

B.S., Industrial Engineering, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln
M.S., Industrial and Management Systems
Engineering, University of Nebraska
Ph.D., Engineering (Construction Engineering and
Management), University of Nebraska

Previous Experience

Post Doctorate Research Associate, The
Durham School of Architectural Engineering
and Construction

Research

Occupational safety and health, occupational
ergonomics, human fatigue and performance,
lean construction, transportation and logistics,
radio frequency identification



ERIC MARKVICKA

Assistant Professor
Mechanical & Materials
Engineering
City Campus

B.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln
M.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln
M.S., Robotics, Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D., Robotics, Carnegie Mellon University

Previous Experience

Researcher at the Air Force Research Laboratory,
NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA Johnson
Space Center, and Honeybee Robotics.

Research

The intersection of computer and material
science to transform how materials interact with
the human body and the world around us



IASON KONSTANTZOS

Assistant Professor
Durham School of Architectural
Engineering and Construction
Scott Campus

Diploma, Civil Engineering, National Technical
University of Athens Greece
M.S., Design and Construction of Underground
Structures, National Technical University of
Athens, Greece
Ph.D., Civil Engineering, Purdue University

Research

Human comfort in the built environment,
building systems and controls, lighting and
daylighting, building envelope, building energy
modeling and simulation



KEEGAN MOORE

Assistant Professor
Mechanical & Materials
Engineering
City Campus

B.Sc., Mechanical Engineering, University of Akron
Ph.D., Mechanical Engineering, University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

Research

Nonlinear dynamics, theoretical and
experimental vibrations, system identification,
non-reciprocal acoustics, data-driven modeling
and identification, advanced signal processing,
experimental mechanics

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BONITA SHARIF

Assistant Professor
Computer Science & Engineering
City Campus

B.S., Computer Science, Cyrus College, Nicosia, Cyprus
M.S., Computer Science, Kent State University,
Kent, Ohio

Ph.D., Computer Science (specializing in Software
Engineering), Kent State University, Ohio

Previous Experience

10 years of experience conducting empirical studies including the use of eye tracking equipment. Received the NSF Career award and the NSF CRI award related to empowering software engineering with eye tracking. Received the NCWIT Undergraduate Research Mentoring award for mentoring female students.

Research

Software engineering, eye tracking and biometrics, empirical studies, program comprehension, human computer interaction, software traceability, software visualization



CURTIS TOMASEVICZ

Assistant Professor of Practice
Biological Systems Engineering
East Campus

B.S., Electrical Engineering (Astrophysics minor),
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

M.S., Electrical Engineering, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln

Ph.D., Biological Systems Engineering, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln

Previous Experience

Lecturer, College of Engineering, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln

USA Bobsled and Skeleton (2004-14)

Research

Power output of jumping and other human movement; biomechanic modeling techniques for injury analysis; power systems equipment replacement scheduling



ROBERT WILHELM

Kate Foster Professor
Mechanical & Materials
Engineering / Vice Chancellor
for Research & Economic
Development
City Campus

B.S., Industrial Engineering,
Wichita State University

M.S., Industrial Engineering, Purdue University

Ph.D., Mechanical Engineering, University of Illinois

Previous Experience

Vice Chancellor for Research and Development,
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Executive Director, Charlotte Research Institute

Research

Precision engineering, virtual manufacturing
and software frameworks for integrated
measurement processes



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