New Faculty Orientation
August 2017
Welcome and Overview

Timothy M. Pinkston
Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs
213-740-2671
tpink@usc.edu
New and Recent Faculty Hires

Assistant Professors
- Niema Pahlevan, AME*
- Cristina Zavaleta, BME***
- Daniel McCurry, CEE*
- Paulo Branicio, CHEMS*
- Shaama Sharada, CHEMS***
- Bistra Dilkina, CS****
- Haipeng Luo, CS***
- Heather Culbertson, CS****
- Joseph Lim, CS*
- Jyotirmoy Deshmukh, CS***
- Xiang Ren, CS****

Lecturers
- John McArthur, AME***
- Olivera Grujic, CS***
- Sarah Mojarad, EWP**
- Nayeon Kim, ITP***

Senior Lecturers
- Matthew Whiting, ITP***
- Sandra Batista, CS***
- Ken-ichi Nomura, CHEMS***

Research Assistant Professor
- Asterios Toutis, EE-S**

Associate Professor of Practice
- Brandi Jones

Professors
- Assad Oberai, AME****
- Mark Davis, CHEMS***
- Mihailo Jovanovic, EE-S*

*       Joined in Spring 2017
**     Joined in Summer 2017
***   Joins in Fall 2017
**** Joins in Spring 2018
New and Recent T/TT Faculty Hires

Assistant Professors
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- Cristina Zavaleta, BME***
- Daniel McCurry, CEE*
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- Shaama Sharada, CHEMS***
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Associate Professor
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New and Recent RTPC Faculty Hires

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USC at a Glance*

USC Academic Units
• USC Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences; 21 schools and units

USC Faculty (6,018 total)
• Approximately 4,190 full-time faculty: 1,475 T/TT faculty and 4,474 Research, Teaching, Practice and Clinical faculty; approximately 1,828 part-time faculty
• Over 150 elected fellows of prestigious societies (AAAS, AAAL, APS, ALI...)
• Over 60 affiliated faculty in National Academies (NAS, NAE, IOM)
• 10 National Medal award winners, 5 Nobel Laureates

USC Students (44,000 total)
• Approximately 19,000 undergrads; 25,000 grad & professional students
• Degrees awarded June 2016: 5,325 Bachelor’s; 10,332 advanced
• More than 375,000 living alumni

Annual Research Expenditures (FY’16-17) and Endowment (June 2016)
• Approximately $697 million in sponsored research; $4.6 billion in endowment

* 2016-2017 Academic Year
http://about.usc.edu/facts
Viterbi School at a Glance*

Viterbi Academic Units
- Dept’s: AME, ASTE, BME, CEE (Astani), CHEMS (Mork), CS, EE-EP/S (Hsieh), ISE (Epstein)
- Academic Program Units (non-degree granting): EWP, ITP

Viterbi Faculty
- Approximately 310 full-time faculty: ~185 T/TT; ~125 Research and Teaching
- Over 90 elected fellows of prestigious societies (AAAI, ASME, ACM, BMES, IEEE, …)
- Over 70 NSF Career, Presidential Young Investigator, and/or PECASE Awardees**
- Over 70 endowed early-mid career chairs, senior career chairs and professorships
- Over 20 full-time (and over 35 affiliated) faculty who are National Academy members

Viterbi Students
- Approximately 8,300 total: ~2,700 undergrad; ~5,600 grad students
- Over 60,000 alumni
- Ranked in Top 11 Graduate Engineering Schools (U.S. News & World Report)

Viterbi Annual Research Expenditures (~ 1/3rd of USC’s)
- Typically over ~$190 million; more than 46 Research Centers and Institutes

* https://viterbischool.usc.edu/viterbi-at-a-glance/
** 12 MIT TR-35 Honorees since 2009
Academic Programs
• 15 BS programs
• 17 active minors
  – 58 Master's programs
    • 37 Master's programs and 4 grad certificates on-line via DEN@Viterbi
• 13 Doctoral programs

Education and Outside-the-Curriculum Efforts
• Division of Engineering Education
• KIUEI (Klein Institute for Undergraduate Engineering Life)
• VAST (Viterbi Adopt-a-School, Adopt-a-Teacher) K-12 STEM Outreach
• Maseeh Entrepreneurship Prize Competition (MEPC)
• Min Family Engineering Social Entrepreneurship Challenge
• USC Viterbi Student Innovation Institute (VSI2) and Viterbi Startup Garage

* https://viterbischool.usc.edu/viterbi-at-a-glance/
Useful USC Resources

Policies and Faculty Portals

- Policies, Faculty Handbook, UCAPT Manual, strategic vision, & core doc’s
  http://policy.usc.edu
- Faculty resources, governance, support, guides, calendars, news, events
  http://faculty.usc.edu
- Essential guides for faculty (all, new, assistant, NTT, chairs, mentors)
  http://faculty.usc.edu

Center for Work and Family Life (CWFL)

- http://www.usc.edu/programs/cwfl

Center for Excellence in Research (CER)

- Proposal writing workshops, proposal review, funding opportunities, ...
  http://research.usc.edu/about/vp/cer/

Center for Excellence in Teaching (CET)

- Workshops, seminars, programs, and resources for teaching innovation
  http://cet.usc.edu/
Useful Viterbi Resources

Viterbi Research Portal
• Funding opportunities, research centers/labs, other info for faculty
  http://viterbischool.usc.edu/faculty/faculty-research-resources/

Viterbi Faculty Portal
• School policies, academic integrity, useful links, and other resources
  https://viterbischool.usc.edu/faculty/

Viterbi Mentoring Program
• Mentorship of junior faculty
• WiSE Program
• Mentor-mentee and peer-mentoring luncheons sponsored by School
• Annual group mentoring sessions (Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs)
• NSF Career proposal internal review (Vice Dean for Research)
• Understand mentoring roles, responsibilities, benefits and expectations—identify your needs and set attainable goals
  https://viterbischool.usc.edu/faculty/ (toward the bottom of the webpage)
Graduate Recruitment

USC and Viterbi Ph.D. Fellowships and Awards
- Provost, Annenberg, Viterbi, Mork, Alfred Mann, Ming Hsieh, Chevron Fellowships
- Viterbi Supplemental, Merit Top-off, WiSE Top-off, GEM, Diversity Top-off Awards
  https://gapp.usc.edu/graduate-programs/doctoral/fellowship

On-Campus Recruitment Events
- Master’s Student Preview Day
  http://gapp.usc.edu/MSPreview
- REACH (Recruitment of Engineering Achievers) PhD Preview
  http://gapp.usc.edu/REACH
- Conversion Visitation Days each Spring (coordinated by departments)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am-9:00am</td>
<td>Refreshments</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am-9:10am</td>
<td>Opening and Introductions</td>
<td>Vice Dean Timothy Pinkston</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10am-9:30am</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
<td>Dean Yannis Yortsos</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am-10:45am</td>
<td>School Administration</td>
<td>Vice Dean Linda Rock, Vice Dean Brandi Jones, Sr. Associate Deans Louise Yates and Kelly Goulis</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45am-11:00am</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am-11:15am</td>
<td>Academic Programs</td>
<td>Vice Dean Erik Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15am-11:30am</td>
<td>Global Initiatives</td>
<td>Vice Dean Raghu Raghavendra</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30am-11:50am</td>
<td>Appointments, Promotions, Tenure</td>
<td>Paul Ronney, Former APT Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:50am-12:10pm</td>
<td>Faculty Affairs</td>
<td>Vice Dean Timothy Pinkston</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15pm-12:20pm</td>
<td>Summary Remarks</td>
<td>Executive Vice Dean Gaurav Sukhatme</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15pm-1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch (various speakers)</td>
<td>Assoc. Dean of Com &amp; Marketing Michael Chung, Faculty Awards Administrator Kim Matsunaga Engaged Learning, Professor Gisele Ragusa VAST Manager, Katie Mills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Presenter</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30pm-1:45pm</td>
<td>Innovation &amp; Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Vice Dean Andrea Belz</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>USC’s High-Performance Computing &amp; Comm’s (HPCC)</td>
<td>Erin Shaw, ACI Research &amp; Education Facilitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00pm-3:00pm</td>
<td>Research at USC</td>
<td>Maja Mataric, Vice Dean for Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00pm-3:00pm</td>
<td>Research at USC</td>
<td>Nichole Phillips, Director of Research Admin.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm-3:45pm</td>
<td>Federal Funding Update; Open Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Steve O. Moldin, Executive Director of Research Advancement</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45pm-4pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Maja Mataric, Vice Dean for Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00pm-5:00pm</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
<td>with Viterbi Faculty</td>
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New and Recent T/TT Faculty Hire Bios

Assistant Professors

Niema Pahlevan, AME*

Niema Pahlevan joined USC in Spring 2017 as an assistant professor. He was a James Boswell Postdoctoral Scholar at the California Institute of Technology and a Clinical Research Investigator for the Huntington Medical Research Institute. He received his Ph.D. in Bioengineering from California Institute of Technology in 2013. His multi-disciplinary research background is in fluid mechanics, cardiovascular physiology, and applied mathematics.

Cristina Zavaleta, BME***

Cristina will be joining the Department of Biomedical Engineering as an assistant professor. She received her B.S. in Nuclear Medicine at University of Incarnate Word (San Antonio, TX) in 2001 and her Ph.D. in Medical Physics from University of Texas Health Science Center (San Antonio, TX) in 2006. Upon receiving an NIH training grant through the NCI for Advanced Techniques for Cancer Imaging, she began her postdoctoral training in the Department of Radiology within the Molecular Imaging Program at Stanford University. In 2012, she became an Instructor at Stanford University to further pursue an independent career where she received a K22 career transition award and an R21 grant through the NIH/NCI. She has been running her own lab at Stanford University for the past few years and her research interests involve developing new nano-based molecular imaging strategies to help clinicians detect cancers with better sensitivity and specificity.

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New and Recent T/TT Faculty Hire Bios

Assistant Professors

Daniel McCurry, CEE*

Daniel McCurry joined the Sonny Astani Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as an assistant professor in January 2017. He completed his Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Stanford University in 2016, supported by an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. Prior to Stanford, he received an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Yale University and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Cincinnati, and worked as a research assistant at the USEPA Office of Research and Development. His research focuses on protecting public health by improving the long-term safety of engineered water sources. He applies the tools of environmental organic chemistry to minimize formation of carcinogenic disinfection byproducts during chemical and ultraviolet disinfection of wastewater and drinking water.

Paulo Branicio, CHEMS*

Paulo Branicio joined the Mork Family Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science as an assistant professor in January 2017. He formerly was a senior scientist at the Institute of High Performance Computing, Singapore. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Federal University of São Carlos - Brazil, Louisiana State University, and USC Department of Materials Science. He received his Ph.D. degree in Materials Physics in 2001 from the Federal University of São Carlos - Brazil. His research interests are on large-scale atomistic modeling of materials, metals and ceramics under extreme conditions, dynamic plasticity, mechanical properties of nanostructured materials, phase change materials, and metallic glasses and nanoglasses.

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Shaama Sharada, CHEMS***

Shaama is joining the Mork Family Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science as WiSe Gabilan Assistant Professor in Fall 2017. She served as a postdoctoral researcher at Stanford University, where she worked on machine learning approaches to density functional theory development. She received her Ph.D. in 2015 from the University of California at Berkeley, where she developed reaction path techniques for zeolite chemistry. She is interested in the development of quantum chemistry methods and their application to methane activation chemistry and metal-support interfaces.

Bistra Dilkina, CS****

Bistra Dilkina will be joining USC in January 2018 as a WiSE Gabilan Assistant Professor of Computer Science and an Associate Director of the USC Center for AI in Society. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Computational Science and Engineering at Georgia Tech and the co-director of the Data Science for Social Good (DSSG) Atlanta summer program. At Georgia Tech, she has been recognized with multiple faculty awards. Before Georgia Tech, she was a Postdoctoral Associate at the Institute for Computational Sustainability at Cornell University, where she received her Ph.D. in 2012 under the supervision of Carla Gomes. Her research focuses on combining machine learning and combinatorial optimization techniques for solving real-world large-scale decision-making problems, particularly ones that arise in sustainability areas such as biodiversity conservation and urban environments.
New and Recent T/TT Faculty Hire Bios

**Assistant Professors**

**Haipeng Luo, CS**
Haipeng Luo joined the department of computer science at USC as an assistant professor in Fall 2017. He obtained his Ph.D. degree under the supervision of Rob Schapire at Princeton in 2016. Afterwards, he spent one year as a postdoctoral researcher at Microsoft Research, NYC. Haipeng's research interest is in theoretical and applied machine learning, with a focus on online learning, bandit algorithms, boosting, optimization and game theory. He has received several awards over the years, including two best paper awards in 2015 (ICML and NIPS).

**Heather Culbertson, CS**
Heather Culbertson is a WiSE Gabilan Assistant Professor of Computer Science at USC, starting Spring 2018. Her research focuses on the design and control of haptic devices and rendering systems, human-robot interaction, and virtual reality. Particularly she is interested in creating haptic interactions that are natural and realistically mimic the touch sensations experienced during interactions with the physical world. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Stanford University where she works in the Collaborative Haptics and Robotics in Medicine (CHARM) Lab. She received her Ph.D. in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics (MEAM) at the University of Pennsylvania in 2015 working in the Haptics Group, part of the General Robotics, Automation, Sensing and Perception (GRASP) Laboratory. She completed a Masters in MEAM at the University of Pennsylvania in 2013, and earned a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno in 2010. She is currently serving as the local arrangements co-chair of the IEEE Haptics Symposium. Her awards include a citation for meritorious service as a reviewer for the IEEE Transactions on Haptics, and the Best Hands-On Demonstration Award at IEEE World Haptics 2013.
New and Recent T/TT Faculty Hire Bios

**Assistant Professors**

**Joseph Lim, CS***

Joseph Lim joined USC in Spring 2017 as an Assistant Professor in Computer Science. Before this, Professor Lim was a postdoctoral researcher at Stanford University. He received a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was advised by Antonio Torralba. His research interests are in computer vision and machine learning. He is particularly interested in deep learning, structure learning, and multi-domain data. Joseph graduated with B.A. in Computer Science from UC Berkeley, where he worked under Jitendra Malik.

**Jyotirmoy Deshmukh, CS***

Jyotirmoy V. Deshmukh joined the Department of Computer Science as a new faculty in August 2017. He transitioned to his role as an educator after five years of work as a Principal Research Engineer at Toyota Motors North America R&D. At Toyota, he helped bridge the gap between academic research and industrial practice through requirement engineering and testing methods. Before joining Toyota, he was the 2010 Computing Innovation Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania under the mentorship of Rajeev Alur. He got his Ph.D. in computer engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 2010, where he was advised by E. Allen Emerson. His current research interests include the application of formal methods to reason about cyber-physical systems, verification and testing of embedded control systems, real-time temporal logics, and analysing time-series data. His research has been recognized by awards such as the 2017 Donald O. Peterson Award for the best paper in the IEEE Transactions in Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems, and the 2014 and 2016 Best Paper awards at the embedded software conference.

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Xiang Ren, CS

Xiang Ren will join the Department of Computer Science at as an assistant professor in 2018 after spending time as a visiting researcher at Stanford University. Xiang received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2017), where he was a Google Ph.D. Fellow and a Richard T. Cheng Fellow. His research focuses on developing automated and scalable techniques for extracting structured information from massive text data and applying structured knowledge to power intelligent services. He is particularly interested in designing effective computational models for partially- and noisily-labeled data, learning with complex label space, automating knowledge base construction, and knowledge acquisition with human in the loop. His research has been recognized with several prestigious awards including a Yahoo!-DAIS Research Excellence Award, a Yelp Dataset Challenge award, a C. W. Gear Outstanding Graduate Student Award and a David J. Kuck Outstanding M.S. Thesis Award. Technologies he developed has been transferred to US Army Research Lab, National Institute of Health, Microsoft, Yelp and TripAdvisor.

Matthew Gilbert, EE-EP

Matthew Gilbert joined USC in July 2017 as an associate professor. He previously was Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where his group was concerned primarily with theoretically elucidating new phenomena in emergent condensed matter systems with the goal of developing new types of nanoelectronic devices and functionality. As a corollary, his group also develops new computational techniques to study and classify these new systems. His major research interests are topological insulators and phenomena, quantum computing, strongly correlated systems, and quantum transport theory.
Assad Oberai, AME****

Assad Oberai will join USC as a professor in Spring 2018. He is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Aerospace and Nuclear Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the School of Engineering, and the Associate Director of the Scientific Computation Research. He was an Assistant Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering at Boston University. He received a Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1998, an M.S. from the University of Colorado in 1994, and a Bachelor’s degree from Osmania University in 1992, all in Mechanical Engineering. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering and United States Associate of Computational Mechanics. His honors include the Humboldt Foundation Award for experienced researchers, Thomas J.R. Hughes Young Investigator Award (ASME), NSF CAREER Award, and Department of Energy Early Career Award. He is on the board of academic editors for three journals including PlosOne.

Mark Davis, CHEMS***

Mark E. Davis will be joining USC in October as Provost Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, of Chemistry, and of Medicine. He received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Kentucky in 1981. Prior to joining USC, he was the Warren and Katharine Schlinger Professor of Chemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology. Professor Davis’s research focuses on the synthesis of materials for molecular recognition applications that include catalysis, and the creation of nanoparticle therapeutics (three have been translated to human clinical trials). Among his many awards, Professor Davis was the first engineer to win the NSF Alan T. Waterman Award (1990). He was elected into the National Academy of Engineering (1997), the National Academy of Sciences (2006), the National Academy of Medicine (2011) and the National Academy of Inventors (2015). In 2014, he received the Prince of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research from the King of Spain.
Mihailo Jovanovic, EE-S*

Mihailo Jovanovic joined USC as a professor in Spring 2017. He received his Ph.D. degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2004. He previously was Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Minnesota and held visiting positions with Stanford University and the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications. His current research focuses on design of controller architectures, dynamics and control of fluid flows, and fundamental limitations in the control of large networks of dynamical systems. He is an associate editor of the SIAM Journal on Control and Optimization. Professor Jovanovic received a CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation in 2007 and the George S. Axelby Outstanding Paper Award from the IEEE Control Systems Society in 2013.
New and Recent RTPC Faculty Hire Bios

Lecturers

John McArthur, AME***

John McArthur joins USC full time in Fall 2017 as a lecturer. He comes from the aerospace industry where his work focused on control systems. He received his Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from USC in 2008.

Olivera Grujic, CS***

Olivera Grujic received a Ph.D. in Computer Science from UCLA in the summer of 2016. Her research focused on big data analysis, specifically computational methods for processing and analyzing genomics datasets. She taught discussion sessions as teaching assistant at UCLA for total of six years mainly focusing on helping students develop programming skills. She is currently pursuing a career in teaching, taught part-time for a year at USC, and will be joining full time this Fall 2017.
New and Recent RTPC Faculty Hire Bios

Lecturers

Sarah Mojarad, EWP**

Sarah Mojarad received her M.S. in Corporate and Organizational Communication with a concentration in Social Media and Online Communication from Northeastern University. She is a lecturer at USC with a joint appointment in Viterbi School of Engineering and Keck School of Medicine. At Keck, she teaches medical students online professionalism and branding as well as the issues and opportunities involving digital healthcare communication. At California Institute of Technology, she was a Lecturer in the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering and Communications Program Manager for Social Media. She has presented her work to the National Science Board and US Department of State, and given workshops that were funded by the Department of Energy and National Institutes of Health. Her book on science communication (Cambridge University Press) is anticipated to be completed in 2018.

Nayeon Kim, ITP***

Nayeon Kim will join USC full time this Fall 2017 as a lecturer for the Information Technology Program at the Viterbi School of Engineering. She has taught web development courses part time for ITP in the past two years upon receiving her B.S. in Computer Science at USC. Prior to joining USC full time, she worked as a software engineer architecting and built web applications for major entertainment studios such as Walt Disney, Universal Studios, Fox, and more. Her interests lie in web development, human computer interaction, and information architecture.

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Sandra Batista, CS***

Sandra Batista will join USC this Fall 2017 as a senior lecturer. Previously, she was a lecturer in computer science at Princeton University. She completed her A.B. in Computer Science at Harvard University with full scholarship support from the AT&T Engineering Scholarship program. She completed her Ph.D. in 2009 at UCLA in Computer Science, specializing in complexity theory, with generous fellowship support from the AT&T Labs Fellowship Program. For her postdoctoral work she studied computational genetics and statistical methods at UNC Chapel Hill and Duke University. Her current research focuses on gene expression analysis and statistical methods for large scale data.

Matthew Whiting, ITP***

Matthew Whiting will join USC full-time this Fall 2017 as a senior lecturer in the Information Technology Program. He received his B.S. degree in Aerospace Engineering from St. Louis University in 1991 and his M.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering (with Aeronautical Emphasis) in 1995 from George Washington University. He began his career as a video game developer in 1995 and has been an independent contractor/consultant in that field since 2006. In addition to full-time game development, Matt began teaching part-time at the Art Institute of California in 2009. In 2015, he moved his part-time teaching efforts over to USC where he has been teaching the Final Game Project for CSG majors and, more recently, Programming Game Engines.
New and Recent RTPC Faculty Hire Bios

Senior Lecturers

Ken-ichi Nomura, CHEMS***

Ken-ichi Nomura will join the Mork Family Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science in Fall 2017 as a senior lecturer. Ken-ichi received his Ph.D. in Physics in May 2008 and Computer Science master degree in 2007 at USC. In 2010, he became a research assistant professor at Department of Physics and Astronomy, then later joined the HPC team at USC’s high-performance computing center where he also served as a research and education facilitator. His research interest is in developing novel algorithms and simulation methodologies to solve challenging problems in materials sciences with the use of advanced high-performance parallel computing, scientific visualization of large-scale dataset, and facilitating research collaborations through modern software engineering practices.

Research Assistant Professors

Asterios Toutis, EE-S**

Asterios Toutios is a Research Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Southern California. His main research interests are in vocal tract imaging and speech production modeling. He received academic degrees in Thessaloniki, Greece: Diploma/MEng in Electrical and Computer Engineering (1999, Aristotle University); MSc in Information Systems (2002, University of Macedonia); Ph.D. in Applied Informatics (2007, University of Macedonia). Before joining USC in 2012 as a research associate, he occupied postdoctoral research positions in France, at LORIA and TELECOM ParisTech. Papers he has co-authored have received the Best Student Paper award at the conference of the International Speech Communication Association (Interspeech), and the Magna Cum Laude award at the meeting of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine.

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New and Recent RTPC Faculty Hire Bios

Associate Professor of Practice

Brandi P. Jones is the Vice Dean for Diversity and Strategic Initiatives at Viterbi School of Engineering. She works collaboratively with Viterbi colleagues on strategies to increase the diversity and enhance the experiences of students, faculty, and staff, ensure an inclusive culture, and promote retention through activities, programs, and events. Brandi assumes a leadership role in the national engineering diversity and inclusion conversation regarding standards, benchmarks and best practices. She brings experience and a proven track record of success in diversity and student development related work. Brandi has held positions at Princeton, Caltech, Occidental, and California State University, Long Beach. Brandi’s professional experience is enhanced by her Doctorate in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania, combined with her research focus on experiences of underrepresented minority students in engineering disciplines.

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