

New Tenure-Track Faculty Fall 2011 Profiles

Helen Daly, Instructor of Philosophy

Helen will complete her Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of Arizona in 2011, and holds a B.A. in Philosophy and English from the University of Akron. She specializes in metaphysics and the philosophy of language. In her dissertation, *Vagueness and Borderline Cases*, Helen clarifies the various explanations of people or things which are stuck in a state of "in-between." She has published in *The Oxford Handbook of Causation* and *A Companion to Metaphysics, 2nd ed.*

Darrell Killian, Assistant Professor of Biology

Darrell received his B.A. in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry from Wesleyan University, and in 2004 earned his Ph.D. in Biology and Developmental Genetics from New York University. He was a visiting professor at Colorado College and recently held an assistant professor position at the College of New Jersey. Much of his graduate and postdoctoral research deals with the regulation of sex-specific programmed cell death in *C. Elegans*. He has been recognized by numerous grants and awards, including a Society for Developmental Biology Teaching Faculty Travel Grant and the Gladys Mateyko Award for Excellence in Biology.

Scott Krzych, Assistant Professor of New Media

Scott holds a B.A. in English from California State University-Northridge, an M.A. in English from the State University of New York-Buffalo, and recently earned his Ph.D. in Screen Studies and English from Oklahoma State University. Scott will be the first tenure-track professor of New Media at Colorado College. His various papers and publications address a range of subjects from digital cinema to video game studies to analysis of Glenn Beck's television show. His dissertation examines evangelical representations of the apocalypse, including such films as *A Thief in the Night* (1972), *Left Behind* (2000), and *The Omega Code* (1999) and such prophecy-based cable programming as *The Hal Lindsey Report* and *Jack Van Impe Presents*.

Christina Leza, Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Christina earned her M.A. in Linguistic Anthropology from the University of California, Davis and obtained a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in 2009, where she wrote a dissertation on indigenous activism in response to United States and Mexico border enforcement policies. She works with the Indigenous Alliance Without Borders and has won numerous grants and awards for her work. Her interests include legal and political anthropology, indigenous cultures and social movements in the Americas, and grassroots political organizing.

Corina McKendry, Instructor of Political Science

Corina comes from the University of CA, Santa Cruz, where she will complete her Ph.D. in Political Science in June 2011. Her thesis, *Smokestacks to Green Roofs: The Global Political Economy of City Environmentalism* explores the political atmosphere surrounding the development of green and sustainable technologies and business. She has won the Benjamin and Ruth Hammett Award for Research on Climate Change and previously held a position as Operations Director for Earth Tones, an environmentally-conscious Internet and Telephone company.

Jim Parco, Associate Professor of Economics

Jim received a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona, where he studied under Amnon Rapoport and Nobel Laureate Vernon Smith. After completing his doctorate, he returned to the faculty of his undergraduate alma mater teaching courses in management, leadership, decision-making and investments. In addition to teaching at the Air Force Academy from 1996-1999 and 2003-2007, Dr. Parco served on the National Security Council at the White House during the Clinton Administration as well as in a diplomatic capacity overseas with the American Embassy in Tel Aviv. In 2007, he received the Thomas Jefferson National Award from the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) for his forthright actions in advocating for cadets at the Air Force Academy. In 2009, he was awarded the Military Officers Association of America's (MOAA) Outstanding Faculty Award for his work at Air Command and Staff College, and in 2010, was named educator of the year.

Andrea Righi, Assistant Professor of Italian

In 2004 Andrea received his M.A. in North American Literatures from the University of California, San Diego. Since then he received a degree in Comparative Literature at the University of Bologna and a Ph.D. in Italian Studies from Cornell University. His book manuscript, *Gramsci Fell Asleep: Life, Biopolitics and Social Change in Italy* will be published by Palgrave Macmillan. He has also published several articles in journals and books in both English and Italian. Andrea has been the recipient of several awards and fellowships, including a Fulbright Scholarship in 2004.

Habiba Vaghoo, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Habiba received a B.A. in Chemistry from Concordia College, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude. She went on to pursue a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Southern California. Her dissertation explores the synthesis of organofluorine compounds. She recently served as a visiting assistant professor at The College of Wooster in Ohio. She has earned several awards and scholarships, including the Stauffer Post Doctoral Fellowship and the Harold and Lillian Moulton Graduate Fellowship for excellence in research.

Dana Wittmer, Instructor of Political Science

Dana will earn her Ph.D. in political science at The Ohio State University in 2011, where she also earned her MA degree. She studies American politics, with specific interests in public opinion, gender and politics, public policy, and Congress. Her dissertation, *A Theory of Institutional Representation: The Link Between Political Engagement and Gendered Institutions*, focuses on public opinion about Congress as a gendered institution, paying particular attention to how these perceptions affect political engagement. Her other research interests include human trafficking within the U.S., the impact of gendered leadership on public policy and gender and legislative effectiveness within Congress.

Naomi Wood, Instructor of Spanish

Naomi earned her M.A. from the University of Minnesota in Hispanic Literature, where she specialized in Spanish-American Literatures and Cultures and Latin-American History. She expects to complete her Ph.D. in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Cultures, with a minor in Feminist Studies in May 2011. Her dissertation, *Ciphering Nations: Performing Identity in Brazil and the Caribbean*, explores concepts of both cultural repression and freedom through performance arts in Latin and South American Countries. She has published her work in *The Global South* and *Literatura e Autoritarismo*.