Donde Ashmos Plowman
James Jr. and Susan Stuart Endowed Dean
College of Business Administration
University of Nebraska–Lincoln

is pleased to announce the appointments of 11 new faculty
2012-2013 NEW FACULTY

Dr. Jenna Pieper
Assistant Professor of Management (Human Resources)

Dr. Scott Murray
Assistant Professor of Finance

Dr. Varkey Titus
Assistant Professor of Management (Entrepreneurship/Strategy)

Dr. Christopher Tuggle
Assistant Professor of Management (Strategy)

Dr. Jifeng Yu
Assistant Professor of Management (Strategy)

Dr. Xin Zhao
Assistant Professor of Marketing

Dr. Elina Ibrayeva
Assistant Professor of Practice in Management

Dr. Laurie Miller
Assistant Professor of Practice in Economics

Jean Riley-Schultz
Assistant Professor of Practice in Accounting

Steve Welton
Assistant Professor of Practice in Marketing

Dr. Glenn Williams
Assistant Professor of Practice in Finance
Dr. Jenna Pieper, a Harvard, Neb., native returned to her home state after receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She received her M.A. in industrial psychology at the University of Tulsa. Her research interests include strategic human resource management and workplace diversity.

She received the Ralph Alexander Best Dissertation Award in 2011, awarded by the Academy of Management for her dissertation titled, “Consider the source: A study of referrer characteristics in the referral hiring phenomenon.” She was also awarded the Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in 2010.

Dr. Scott Murray received his Ph.D. in finance from the Zicklin School of Business at Baruch College in 2012. Murray, whose dissertation was titled, “Essays on the Options Market,” received his M.A. in statistics from Columbia University. His research interests are in empirical asset pricing, investments, market efficiency, pricing of risk, options market and derivatives.

Murray’s recent article, “Does Risk-Neutral Skewness Predict the Cross-Section of Equity Option Portfolio Returns?” is forthcoming in the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis.

Earlier this year, he received the Best Paper in Investments award at the Southwestern Finance Association’s annual meeting. He also received the Oscar Lasdon Memorial Award for Best Doctoral Dissertation in Finance at Baruch College.
Dr. Varkey Titus received his Ph.D. in management from the Kelley School of Business at the University of Indiana earlier this year. He previously received his MBA and BBA from the University of Texas-Arlington and Baylor University respectively.

His research interests are in entrepreneurship and strategic management and was awarded the Undergraduate Teaching Award for Associate Instructors from the Kelley School of Business in 2011.

His publications include, “Pioneering orientation and firm growth: Knowing When and to What Degree Pioneering Makes Sense,” in the *Journal of Management* and “Aligning Strategic Processes in Pursuit of Firm Growth,” in the *Journal of Business Research.*
Dr. Christopher Tuggle received his Ph.D. in business administration with emphases in strategic management and entrepreneurship in 2004 from Texas A&M University. Prior to his arrival at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Tuggle was on the faculty at the Trulaske College of Business at the University of Missouri. His research interests include examining CEO and corporate board composition and effectiveness.

Dr. Jifeng Yu
Assistant Professor of Management
(Strategy)

Dr. Jifeng Yu earned his Ph.D. in management from Georgia State University in 2006, and his M.S. in finance from the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. Yu’s research interest is in strategic management. He joined the University of Nebraska–Lincoln after serving on the faculty at the University of Nevada–Las Vegas.

Dr. Xin Zhao received his Ph.D. in marketing from the David Eccles School of Business at the University of Utah. Zhao was on the faculty at the University of Hawaii-Manoa before joining the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. His research interests include consumer culture theory, market development in emerging economies and cultural aspects of consumption and branding.

Dr. Elina Ibrayeva received her Ph.D. in management from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and also earned a Ph.D. in political economy from the Kazakh National State University. Ibrayeva joined the University of Nebraska–Lincoln from Southwest Minnesota State University. She has expertise examining developing country economies, looking at environmental and political challenges, and emerging entrepreneurship in those countries.


Ibrayeva has studied executive entrepreneurship at the Maastricht School of Management in the Netherlands and received a Fulbright Scholarship to study in the U.S.
Dr. Laurie Miller
Assistant Professor of Practice in Economics

Dr. Laurie Miller received her Ph.D. in economics and M.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her primary research interest is in labor economics.


She received the Perlman Prize for Outstanding Paper in Labor Economics in 2011.
Jean Riley-Schultz received her MPA from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Her primary area of focus is in financial accounting.

Riley-Schultz has over 25 years of experience in the field of accountancy, including becoming a certified public accountant in 1991. Working at Deloitte & Touche, she participated in audits and specialized in financial institution and corporate tax solutions. She later worked as assistant vice president at Wells Fargo with compliance issues from the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Reserve Bank and other key financial legislation in the state of Nebraska.

She has also taught accounting courses at the collegiate level for the past 20 years.
Steve Welton received his MBA from Rockhurst University. His primary area of focus is in general marketing and strategic marketing for financial services firms.

Welton has 30 years of professional experience working in the marketing field for the financial and insurance industries. He served as vice president, strategic marketing at Ameritas Life Insurance, Corp., leading a staff of eight people and having responsibility for a $1 million marketing budget.

Welton is a chartered life underwriter and chartered financial consultant. He completed executive development coursework at the Stephen M. Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.
Dr. Glenn Williams
Assistant Professor of Practice in Finance

Dr. Glenn Williams received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida, his MBA in finance from Rollins College. His expertise is in corporate finance, executive compensation and fixed income markets. Williams previously was on the faculty of The American University in Cairo, Egypt.


Williams has professional experience in the energy industry. He worked as a consultant for the petroleum industry while in Egypt, developing and teaching multiple financial management seminars for managers.