



2010-2011 Mentor Information

Welcome to MSOE and the MSOE Mentor Program. The following information will help you learn more about MSOE's faculty, staff and alumni mentors. We look forward to working with you.



Dr. Bass Abushakra

Dr. Abushakra is a professor in the Architectural Engineering & Building Construction Department and is the technical specialty head of building mechanical systems in the department. He primarily teaches sophomore- and junior-level courses as well as graduate-level courses in thermo-fluids and building energy systems and simulation. He earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the American

University of Beirut, a master's in building engineering from Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, and a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M University. He has also done post-doctoral studies at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and worked for a few years as a consultant engineer. His personal interests include travel, architecture, cars, biking and cinema. He also enjoys playing soccer. Dr. Abushakra likes the small environment of MSOE, which makes it easier for students and professors to connect. He also admires how disciplined the majority of students are. He looks forward to his mentor group spending a pleasant and successful year together.



Betty Albrecht

Betty is the coordinator/counselor for MSOE Student Support Services TRIO program. In that capacity she works with students who the U.S. Department of Education sees as high-risk college students. She also serves as an advisor for the National Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the National Society of Black Engineers. Betty is on a number of committees acting as a student advocate. She has a master's degree in guidance

and counseling with an emphasis in higher education. Her interests and hobbies include tennis, bowling, gardening and riding her Harley-Davidson motorcycle. She really believes in the mission of MSOE—to provide an interactive educational climate for students to become well-rounded, technically experienced graduates and highly productive professionals and leaders. She enjoys the focus that students bring to the campus. She has been doing unofficial mentoring for years and is looking forward to being in the official program in order to interact in a different way with students.



Dr. Steven Barnicki

Dr. Barnicki is a professor in the Electrical Engineering & Computer Science Department teaching mainly computer engineering and electrical engineering courses. Previously he has been a computer engineering program director. He calls himself a domackcertified geek (can't spell geek without EE)/nerd in the networking/computer/embedded systems area. His bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees are from The

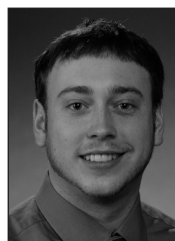
Ohio State University. Some of his interests and hobbies are computers, networks, videos, audio and bad Sci-fi movies (aka, "The Deadly Mantis," "The Killer Shrews," etc.). Dr. Barnicki has been a mentor in the past; since he will be teaching a number of freshman courses this fall he decided to get involved again in the mentor program. He also wants his mentees to know that he has a beard!



Dr. Ann Batiza

Dr. Batiza is a program director for the Center for BioMolecular Modeling (CBM), which develops innovative materials and science outreach programs. She is also the author of a textbook for young adults called Bioinformatics, Genomics and Proteomics: Getting the Big Picture. At the CBM, she recently wrote a grant (which was funded) to develop material and a workshop to teach high school biology teachers about energy

transfer. Dr. Batiza has a Ph.D. in cellular and molecular biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has also taught, done post-doctoral work on ion channels, and developed the Discovery Room for children at the St. Louis Science Center. Her personal interests include reading, playing tennis and getting together with her family. She is impressed with the students at MSOE, especially with their ability to work hard on their studies while maintaining work-study jobs. She looks forward to helping new students navigate the demands placed upon them in college.



Caleb Black

Caleb is the international student admission counselor in the Enrollment Management Department. He not only recruits students from around the world, he is a source of assistance and support for international students when they begin their studies at MSOE. Caleb earned bachelor's degrees in international business and in Spanish, both from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. His interests include soccer, fishing,

rollerblading, traveling and sampling a variety of new foods. He's also a dog lover! Caleb recently celebrated his second-year anniversary with his wife Emily. He is a current graduate student at MSOE in the marketing and export management program. He's looking forward to the opportunity to interact with and to learn more about the members of his mentor group.



Dr. Michael Carriere

Dr. Carriere is an assistant professor in the General Studies Department, teaching courses such as Current Affairs, American Government, International Relations, Contemporary European Society and Government, Contemporary Issues, and Composition. He earned a Ph.D. in American History from the University of Chicago. Outside of MSOE he enjoys music (writing about indie rock and punk rock for the *Shepherd*

Express, *The Onion*, and other publications), loves basketball, architecture and traveling. He feels that students at MSOE are curious, respond to new material well, and are willing to move out of their comfort zones. He's looking forward to serving as a mentor in order to help students better understand life at MSOE. Michael wants his mentees to know that he is relatively young and pretty laid back!

**Amy Chisnell**

Amy is the coordinator of services for students with disabilities in Student Support Services. She assists students with disabilities in securing accommodations, as well as providing the necessary academic support. She has earned two bachelor's degrees, one in education from St. Norbert College and one in exceptional education from UW-Milwaukee. Some of her interests include reading, cooking (if you're lucky you'll get to

sample her cookies!), traveling and anything Irish. Amy finds MSOE students unique in their determination, drive and love of learning, and looks forward to getting to know her mentees through the mentor group!

**Dr. Elizabeth Clark**

Dr. Clark teaches various courses for the General Studies Department, mainly composition, speech, contemporary issues, and literature electives. Prior to teaching at MSOE, she taught at the University of Iowa in its non-fiction writing program. Her Ph.D. is also from the University of Iowa. While studying and teaching in Iowa, Dr. Clark worked at American College Testing (ACT) and at another educational

agency as a writer, editor and scorer of many national standardized writing assessments. During her final summer in Iowa City, she trained many high school teachers to score the first administration of the SAT Writing Assessment. Dr. Clark enjoys sports, movies, writing and ethnic festivals. She feels that MSOE promotes a strong sense of community and that the students are hard working and respectful. She enjoys them immensely in the classroom and is looking forward to assisting them outside of the classroom as they adjust to college life. She wants students to know that everyone at MSOE is committed to making their first year successful and enjoyable.

**Melinda Davies**

Mindy is a part-time instructor in the Rader School of Business. She teaches Project Management, Supervision, Organizational Behavior, and Leading Project Teams. She is also an adjunct professor at Cardinal Stritch University. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's degree in management from Cardinal Stritch University. Her background includes 30 years of experience in human

resources, working for such companies as St. Anthony Hospital and Johnson Controls. She also has worked as a consultant at other companies in the Milwaukee area. In her free time she enjoys playing golf. She likes the small classes and the opportunity to connect with students on a one-on-one basis at MSOE. She appreciates the chance to welcome students to the MSOE community and encourage them to make the very most of their experience through the Mentor Program. She also views college from several perspectives that she can share with students: as an admissions counselor in the past, as an instructor now, and as a parent with children experiencing college life.

**Rose Didier**

Rose is the administrative assistant for the General Studies Department, assisting faculty members with course material preparation and numerous other tasks that keep the department and office running smoothly. Rose has a bachelor's degree in political science and public administration from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. She has also worked for UW-Milwaukee's School of Nursing and Graduate School,

and as an office manager for a small public relations and fundraising firm. Rose enjoys reading fiction, traveling, attending sporting events, and attending Milwaukee's many festivals. She has found that MSOE's faculty and staff are genuinely kind, helpful and supportive. She admires the students' career aspirations, saying they deserve the best education we can provide. As a mentor, she feels she will be a good listener. Rose is easy to talk to and she loves to laugh!

**Dr. Alicia Domack**

Dr. Domack is an assistant professor in the General Studies Department and teaches psychology and sociology courses. She earned her master's degree in school psychology and a Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Nebraska. She has worked in an academic assessment clinic diagnosing and treating learning disabilities. In her spare time she enjoys

traveling, eating great food, exercising and watching college football. Dr. Domack especially likes the close interaction between MSOE students and professors and how dedicated MSOE students are to their academics. Through the mentor program she feels that she will be able to guide new students to appropriate support systems at MSOE and as a huge fan of Milwaukee, is looking forward to introducing them to the area. She wants her mentees to know that they can feel free to talk to her about anything in life, not just academics.

**Dr. Eric Durant '98**

Dr. Durant is the computer engineering program director and teaches a variety of classes including freshmen Digital Logic. During the summers he works as a DSP research engineer in Eden Prairie, Minn., for Starkey, a large hearing aid company. His interests include trivia, playing tennis at the Kern Center, sports and theater photography (you'll see him at many MSOE events), and reading, currently focusing on fiction from

1920 to 1970. He has bachelor's degrees from MSOE in electrical and computer engineering, and master's and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan. He is currently enrolled in the executive MBA program at UW-Milwaukee. Dr. Durant maintains numerous virtual presences that generally get along with each other - <http://myweb.msoc.edu/durant/>.

**John Ficken**

John, who is an associate professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department, teaches mechanical engineering and mechanical engineering technology courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. He appreciates MSOE students' willingness to learn and the many opportunities MSOE provides for professional growth. Professor Ficken enjoys the opportunity to be helpful and supportive to his

students. He values his Christian faith and participates in the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship student organization.

**Richard Gagliano**

Rich is the director of student activities, which is a part of the university's Student Life Division. As a member of the student activities staff, he plans a variety of annual campus events including Welcome Week, Raider Week and Parents Weekend, as well as traditional, ongoing programs like music and other forms of entertainment. In addition, Rich provides ongoing support and advice for the more than 70 student organizations on campus.

Rich earned his bachelor's degree in education from UW-Milwaukee and has completed master's coursework in college student personnel and education from UW-Milwaukee and UW-La Crosse. He has worked in higher education for more than 25 years, serving on residence life staffs at several universities. Rich finds MSOE students to be motivated and caring individuals. He believes that the most important thing freshmen need is to make connections with others on campus, including faculty and staff, but more importantly, with other students. These are relationships that can develop into life-long friendships. In addition to the mentor program, he strongly encourages all students to connect to the 3,300 MSOE alumni currently on www.linkedin.com.

**Dr. John Gassert, P.E.**

Dr. Gassert is a faculty member in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department and teaches biomedical engineering courses. He is also an adjunct faculty member in biophysics at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Gassert has degrees in electrical engineering and biomedical engineering and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Wisconsin. He has also worked in the field at St. Luke's

Hospital, Marquette Electronics Inc. and as the owner of Milwaukee Micro Inc. In his free time he enjoys hiking, biking, bird watching, gardening and learning about art. Dr. Gassert has been a mentor many times in the past—he was nominated for the Outstanding Mentor award in 2008 and previously received that award in 2000. He is looking forward to working with new students again. He believes that MSOE students are bright, articulate, dedicated and willing to learn. He expects them to be successful in their pursuit of MSOE education.

**Abigail Goelzer**

Abby is the English-as-a-second-language coordinator (ESL) in the Learning Resource Center (LRC). She works mainly with international students on a one-on-one basis helping them with composition and reading comprehension. She earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in foreign language and literature. Before working at MSOE, Abby taught ESL at UW-Milwaukee and composition at the Milwaukee

Institute of Art and Design. She also taught ESL in India for six months. Some of Abby's interests are reading, gardening, walking her dogs and traveling. She especially likes the fact that community service work is important to many MSOE students and faculty. She also feels that students here are very dedicated and focused. She is looking forward to getting to know her mentees and helping them navigate the college environment.

**Dr. Agnieszka M. Janiak**

Dr. Janiak teaches in Physics and Chemistry Department and is a part of the biomolecular engineering program. She is a chemical engineer and biotechnologist with a Ph.D. in chemistry. Her interests and hobbies include outdoor activities such as hiking, canoeing, skiing and working in her garden. She also likes to travel, listen to Sting, read whodunits and bake.

Dr. Janiak hopes that she can share her experiences and support students in their challenging transition to college. She believes that MSOE students are very focused and determined about their career path, which greatly helps them succeed. She would like to share with students the idea that people from different backgrounds can learn a lot from each other, and that experiencing different cultures is mind-broadening and teaches tolerance.

**Jeffrey Korn**

Professor Korn teaches in the Physics and Chemistry Department and designs experiments and equipment to perform the experiments. He has his degrees from UW-Milwaukee. Before coming to MSOE, he had worked as a high school teacher, electrical engineer, mechanical engineer and nuclear engineer. He is also a certificated laser safety officer and a certified radiation safety officer. His interests and hobbies include cars, motorcycles,

travel, pets and family. He feels that MSOE students are polite, ambitious, and typically try to do the best job they can. As a mentor he is hoping to do whatever he can to ease the transition to college since he has seen firsthand through his own daughter how hard that can be. He is looking forward to getting to know his mentees and helping them with any problems they may have.

**Larry Korta**

Larry is professor emeritus of mechanical engineering, where for more than 20 years he taught a variety of industrial engineering courses such as Project Management, Ergonomics and Quality Assurance and served as industrial engineering program director. He also occasionally teaches selected general studies courses such as Creative Thinking and Human Factors. With bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering,

as well as a certificate in creative studies, professor Korta came to MSOE with more than 20 years of industry experience. He values MSOE's highly interactive learning environment, its close relationships with business and industry that provides unique project learning opportunities, and the fact that MSOE students are highly motivated and really care about learning.

His personal interests include being a Packer fan (frostbitten at the Ice Bowl many years ago), photography, and traveling with his wife, especially to visit their six children and 14 grandchildren scattered from Atlanta to Galena, Ala. In both 2007 and 2008 he and his wife visited Alaska where their oldest son and his team competed in—and completed!—the 1,000 mile Iditarod dog sled race. Currently, most of professor Korta's time is devoted to serving as chair of the Student Retention Committee, which focuses its efforts on continuous improvement of the learning and living environment of Milwaukee School of Engineering. Professor Korta's advice to students: "Together, we can accomplish great things!"

**Dr. Subha Kumpaty, P.E.**

Dr. Kumpaty is a professor in MSOE's Mechanical Engineering Department, where he teaches energy-related courses and guides students in projects that assist people with physical disabilities. He is also the program director of the master of science in engineering. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Mississippi and also holds a D.Min in biblical counseling from the Tyndale Theological Seminary. He is a professional engineer registered in the state of Wisconsin. Dr. Kumpaty enjoys leading National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored on-campus summer research experiences for undergraduates. He finds MSOE's students to be motivated and hard-working. His personal interests include the English game of cricket, cooking Indian food, supporting the activities of MSOE's InterVarsity Christian Fellowship student organization, writing a monthly newsletter titled Glitches and Grace, and serving in his church.

**Rachael McFarlane**

Rachael is an admission counselor in the Enrollment Management Department. She works primarily with traditional students who are looking into college for the first time. Rachael gives campus tours, evaluates applications, helps students with scholarship questions, and assists with the many events and activities involved in enrolling students at MSOE. Rachael earned her bachelor's degree from Carroll University in 2006 and previously worked as a recruiter at Remedy Staffing in Waukesha. Currently she is considering a graduate program in school counseling. Rachael's interests include traveling (she LOVES to travel), working on home projects, and spending time with her family and friends. Rachael recently celebrated her one-year wedding anniversary with her husband Keith, and they both stay very busy with their new dog, Junior. She also enjoys time up north and out on the lake. Rachael feels that MSOE students are not only incredibly bright and motivated individuals, but she loves to see the excitement they have for their university. She is really looking forward to participating in the mentor program this year and is excited to meet the students in her group.

**Gina Moran**

Gina teaches for the Mathematics Department and also works as a mathematics/physics specialist in the Learning Resource Center. She earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's degree in adult education with an emphasis mathematics. Gina especially likes the small university atmosphere and the dedicated students at MSOE. She wants students to have opportunities to talk to faculty and staff about

their concerns. Outside of school, Gina enjoys spending time with her young daughter in activities such as swimming, walking along the beach and trails, and biking.

**Dr. Anne-Marie Nickel**

Dr. Nickel teaches chemistry courses and some electives in the Physics and Chemistry Department. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Lawrence University and a Ph.D. at UW-Madison, where her research area was semiconductor chemical sensors. "I really enjoy working with students here at MSOE," she says. "I have found them to be hard-working, focused, driven and considerate; they are a great group of

students." She spends most of her free time playing with her two sons. She also enjoys reading, walking, cooking and swimming. Her family takes opportunities to travel whenever possible and particularly enjoys going to the beach and trying new foods. She is looking forward to helping new students with the transition to college, finding a supportive community at MSOE and learning how to succeed.

**Mary Jo Noble '83**

Mary Jo is an assistant professor in the MSOE School of Nursing and teaches across the curriculum including medical terminology, perioperative, community nursing as well as nursing leadership and nursing synthesis in the senior years. She earned a diploma in nursing from the Milwaukee County School of Nursing (the current MSOE School of Nursing), and a bachelor's degree in nursing from Carroll College. She also earned a master's

degree in nursing education from University of Phoenix and she's in the process of performing her research for her dissertation to earn a doctorate of education in educational leadership. She is a certified operating room nurse and she has previously worked in nursing areas such as cardiac surgery, neonatal ICU, pediatrics and home care. In her spare time, Mary Jo loves to garden and "pamper" her creative side of the mind! She wants students to know that she is approachable on any issue. If she can't answer your question, she'll help you find a person with the answer. She also says she loves teaching and she enjoys the growth that students experience in college. She is a member of the alumni board and is committed to the college and the nursing program.

**Erik Oswald**

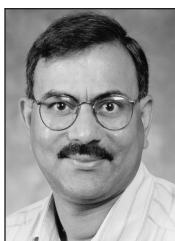
Erik is the career placement associate in the MSOE Career Placement Office. In this role, he assists students with developing their job search strategies and provides resources for job searches. He reviews resumes, performs practice interviews and schedules on-campus interviews. He is also a liaison with employers to provide them with resources to fill open positions. Erik earned a bachelor's degree in environmental science and anthropology from

the University of Notre Dame and a master's degree in college student affairs leadership from Grand Valley State University. While at Grand Valley, he worked as a graduate assistant in the Counseling and Career Development Center. He is an avid reader and he also enjoys collecting "Simpsons"- related items like DVDs, games and calendars. Erik is looking forward to meeting and working with the new students in his mentor group.

**Dr. Dudley Outcalt, P.E.**

Dr. Outcalt is a faculty member in the Architectural Engineering and Construction Management Department and teaches courses in architectural engineering – building electrical specialty. Dr. Outcalt has degrees in physics, electrical engineering and an MBA in finance and economics. He is a registered professional engineer in the states of Wisconsin, Illinois

and Hawaii. He is the president of Midwest Power Consultants Inc. and he actively consults with Midwestern international airports and local area hospitals. He is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, experienced in nuclear submarines and a retired Captain from the U.S. Navy. In his spare time he reads and operates radio-controlled airplanes and helicopters. He has been a faculty representative for student NASA rocket competition, and student national competition in building electrical efficiency. He believes that MSOE students have a special competitive advantage that leads them to championships in these competitions.

**Dr. Vipin Paliwal**

Dr. Paliwal teaches courses in general chemistry, organic chemistry, biology and biochemistry in the Physics and Chemistry Department. In summer he advises undergraduate research students in the REU program.

Dr. Paliwal received his doctorate degree in biochemistry from the Post Graduate Medical Research Institute in Chandigarh, India. Prior coming to MSOE, he was a biomedical scientist at Yale University in New

Haven, Conn., and taught graduate courses at the University of New Haven. Dr. Paliwal enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, biking, canoeing and playing tennis with his son. He is also involved in rock climbing with Chicago mountaineering club. He also enjoys traveling. He likes the smaller classroom sizes at MSOE that make it easier to connect with students and he is impressed with MSOE students' desire to learn.

**Dr. Cory Prust '01**

Dr. Prust is an assistant professor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department and teaches courses in the areas of signal processing and embedded systems. He earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from MSOE in 2001 and his Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering from Purdue University in 2006. Prior to joining MSOE, he was a technical staff member at Massachusetts Institute

of Technology Lincoln Laboratory where he conducted research in the area of phased-array radar. He continues to pursue research in array signal processing as well as computational structural biology. His personal interests include backpacking, fishing, playing guitar, and audio recording and production. Dr. Prust sees the mentor program as an integral part of establishing and maintaining a healthy and vibrant campus community. He takes great pride in getting to know his students and becoming invested in their success.

**Dr. Robert Rizza**

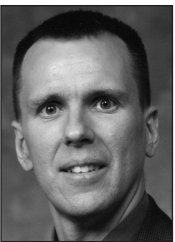
Dr. Rizza is an associate professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department. He teaches mechanics and design courses and works with undergraduate students on research and design projects. He is very active in mechanics and numerical methods course development. He routinely represents MSOE at national conferences and symposia. He has industrial experience in various industries and is currently very active in medical device

design and development. He is a recipient of the 2010 Karl O. Werwath Engineering Research Award and the 2008 Falk Engineering Educator Award. His hobbies include reading and watching Sci-Fi movies. In addition, he is a woodworker and has constructed many wood projects including bedroom furniture and kitchen cabinets. One of the things he would like his mentees to know about him is that while he may not be a fan of the students' favorite baseball and football teams, he really enjoys talking about these sports!

**Maureen Rochester**

Maureen is the administrative assistant in the Architectural Engineering and Building Construction Department (AE/BC), providing support to the department chair, the AE/BC faculty and students. In 2003, Maureen earned an associate's degree in business and is currently a junior in the business program at MSOE. She is empathetic about the struggles students can experience in college and hopes to be a source of

information and advice for the members of her Mentor group. She enjoys seeing the students grow both personally and professionally during their time at MSOE, and you'll always find her at Spring Commencement wishing her "kids" continued success as they enter the work world. Maureen's interests include bicycling, gardening, travel, reading and attending concerts.

**Dr. Darrin Rothe '92**

Dr. Rothe is a professor in the Computer Engineering and Software Engineering programs. He earned his bachelor's degree from MSOE in electrical engineering; he also earned a master's degree in electrical engineering from Marquette University and a Ph.D. in bioengineering from Arizona State University. Prior to coming to MSOE, he worked at Rockwell Automation and Marquette Medical Systems, now known as GE

Healthcare. In his free time, Dr. Rothe enjoys computers, electronics, woodworking, and time spent with his family. As a mentor, he hopes to help freshmen get connected to MSOE. He feels that the potential is there for students and faculty to have close working relationships and wants to help break down any barriers between them.

**Dr. Walter Schilling**

Dr. Schilling is an assistant professor in the software engineering program. He teaches a variety of software and computer engineering courses. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering with a minor in computer science from Ohio Northern University, a master's degree in engineering science with a computer systems design focus from the University of Toledo, and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering focusing on software

reliability, also from the University of Toledo. As a part of his Ph.D. work, he spent time at the NASA Glenn Research Center working on a reliability analysis for space station software. He has also worked in the automotive industry developing multimedia systems. His interests include playing the tuba, model railroading and photography.

**Laura Schumacher**

Laura works in the Enrollment Management Department. She assists prospective students in the college admission process. Laura will often visit high schools to promote MSOE, meet with families when they visit the campus, and help coordinate and facilitate campus events for future students. Laura earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Ball State University and is currently working on her master's degree. Prior to

coming to MSOE, she spent time in Australia coordinating a study abroad program. In addition to her love of travel, Laura likes to ski, hike, bike and spend time outside. She also likes to volunteer, cook and bake.

**Nick Seidler**

Nick is assistant director of student activities and adviser to both MSOE's Greek Council and the Student Union Board. He is also MSOE's international student advisor. Nick enjoys the people at MSOE and considers MSOE students "well above average." According to Nick, "when you attend college you should open your mind to new developmental experiences and learn about life." He is a fan of films, science-fiction and role-

playing games and advises MSOE's gaming organization (MAGE). He also loves sports and entertainment and thinks even ballet is cool. Prior to coming to MSOE, Nick served in the U.S. Army and earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in history at UW-Milwaukee.

**Dr. Faisal Shaikh**

Dr. Shaikh is an assistant professor in the Physics and Chemistry Department, helping to develop the new biomolecular engineering program and teaching chemistry at the freshman/sophomore levels. He earned his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in chemical engineering. He also spent a couple of years teaching at Qatar University before coming to MSOE. His interests include outdoor sports, cooking, baking, surfing the

Internet and watching movies. Dr. Shaikh is looking forward to serving as a mentor and would like to contribute to the student's experience at MSOE. He would like his mentees to know that he is fairly young and very approachable. His advice to his mentees is "Carpe Diem!"

**Dr. Nadya Shalamova**

Dr. Shalamova is a professor in the General Studies Department (teaching communications courses) and technical communication program director. She has a Ph.D. in rhetoric and professional communication from New Mexico State University (NMSU). At NMSU, she was heavily involved in the Freshman Engineering Integrated Learning Community Project organized by the New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation.

She also has more than five years of teaching experience in English as a Second/Foreign Language at both undergraduate and graduate levels at a large engineering school in Russia. Her main interests are her family, reading, traveling and the outdoors. She admires many MSOE students for their hard work, motivation, determination, strong spirit and ability to balance work and a personal life. As a mentor, she would like to help students recognize their own potential and provide guidance toward their growth and achievement.



Dr. Chris Taylor

Dr. Taylor is a professor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department teaching computer and software engineering courses. He has bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering. He appreciates MSOE's small classes, lab emphasis and motivated students. Dr. Taylor's personal interests include parenthood, photography and church. Further information is available on his website, <http://chris.t-a-y-l-o-r.com/>.



Elizabeth Waterfall

Elizabeth is the administrative coordinator for TRIO Student Support Services and Upward Bound. She provides academic advising to high school and college students, develops innovative supplemental education programming to address the needs of at-risk populations, and writes federal grant applications. Liz is an advisor for MSOE's student chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. She also teaches freshmen orientation classes (AE-100 and OR-100). She holds degrees in public administration and human services. She enjoys live theatre and concerts, swimming, canoeing, listening to NPR, and foreign films. She also is an avid gardener and flower enthusiast. She feels that the students who are attracted to MSOE appear to be in many ways more serious and responsible than their counterparts. However, they also appear to be more introverted and may need a little more social interaction to become fully confident, independent adults. She feels that a personal connection as a mentor with incoming students would be a rewarding experience as well as facilitate the holistic development of the students.



Dr. Yvonne Yaz

Dr. Yaz is a professor in the Mathematics Department. She earned bachelor's degrees in both electrical engineering and mathematics and a master's degree in mathematics, all from Bosphorus University in Istanbul, Turkey. She also earned a Ph.D. in applied mathematics from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Prior to joining the Mathematics Department at MSOE, Dr. Yaz taught at a number of other colleges, including Carthage, Centenary, and Northwest Arkansas Community College. Her interests include running, swimming, reading fiction, watching movies, opera and ballet, and traveling. She is an enthusiastic and patient teacher; she loves interacting with and mentoring college students.



Mark Zimmermann

Mark has been an instructor in the General Studies Department since 2004, teaching communication and humanities courses. He has bachelor's and master's degrees from UW-Milwaukee and studied for a year at the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom. He also spent a number of years teaching in Japan. Mark enjoys literature, film, music and sports. He is looking forward to helping students become more acclimated to college and finding out more directly what their concerns are. He finds MSOE students to be very academically oriented and motivated to learn. He is hoping to share his international experiences with students.