Meet Dr. Weldon Lodwick, the new Faculty Advisor!

- He was born in São Paulo, Brazil to USA parent and raised in the interior of Brazil. From the 3rd grade through half way into 11th grade, he attended international school in São Paulo. He went to Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio John Glenn’s college), majored in mathematics, minored in physics - obtained enough credits in philosophy but did not get a minor. He did his master’s in mathematics at the University of Cincinnati. He started a tutoring service for at risk high school kids in Cincinnati, directed a playground in the inner city where his grandfather was born in Cincinnati. He worked four years in rural Georgia (post office was Keyeville, Georgia) as an African American prep school, Boggs Academy. The county, Burke County, was one of the last 3 counties in the USA to desegregate. The first two years he was at Boggs, the county was segregated. He belonged to the African American teacher’s organization and was the first white county teacher’s president under the 10 year rotation of black/white. He obtained his PhD in mathematics from Oregon State University. He went to Michigan State University as a research assistant to support his wife’s PhD. As a research assistant for four years, he worked on an international project in Syria, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Costa Rica. While in Costa Rica, he was contracted out to the Organization of American States and worked in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. He came to UC in 1982 though he had been a student there the year before. He left UC to finish his work in Jamaica. He was a visiting professor at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, State University of São Paulo in Brazil; Rio de Janeiro. He was the cow chip champion at Oregon State Ag Olympic games with a throw of 156.6 feet.

Faculty Featurette Maryam Darbeshehti

An Interview with Maryam Darbeshehti, an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering and also the Director of the Engineering Student Services Center. Professor Darbeshehti was named CU Denver Faculty Fellow of the Year in 2016 and currently serves as faculty advisor for the CU Denver Society of Women Engineers. She is also an active participant in our very own UCDALI.

To Read the rest of this interview, Click Here.

The Lecturer Hiring Process

Pam Laitel - History Department

The timing for signing on Lecturers to courses calls for a careful balance of teaching-related practicalities, on the one hand, and departmental scheduling and budgetary needs, on the other.

A Lecturer who has taught for CU Denver for several years came to me early in the fall semester concerned about having been inactive so late that it caused problems with preparing for teaching. Even though his department had expected to rehire him, the rehiring process began so late that he was only “on the books” by the first week of classes. As a result, he could not get access in advance to his Canvas shell, student lists, or book orders until the semester started. Lecturers can lose access to their CU Denver email accounts between semesters, which can cause major difficulties for students and staff.

To figure out how to avoid these difficulties, I asked around, finally talking to CU System HR. There I learned that individual primary units (usually departments) can bring on Lecturers as early as 60 days prior to the start of a semester for which department expects them to teach. In other words, lectures who have been informed by their departments that they will teach—assuming adequate enrollments—should consult with the departments’ Program Assistants, chairs, directors, or whoever is appropriate for that unit, to enter their information into the HR system and, thereby, activate them early within that 60-day window.

In addition, Lecturers who teach regularly can ask their units to keep them active by putting them on temporary unpaid leave between semesters, what’s known as a “short week break.” If set up with the appropriate dates, this can avoid altogether the problems of “termination” and then rehiring. If departments are unsure of enrollments, they may not be able to provide this, but it is a solution worth exploring. If units are uncertain about these options and procedures, ask the appropriate folks to consult with their HR professionals.

Non-Tenure Track Faculty in Research and the New:
Non-Tenure Track Faculty in the News

The Great Shore of Our Professor.
February 15, 2017 By Steve Mentzer
http://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Great-Professor/291946

“Understanding the changing faculty workforce in higher education: A comparison of non-tenure track and tenure line experiences”


Upcoming Events And Announcements

UCDALI Executive Committee Elections are coming soon. Nominations needed, and please let me know if you have any questions.

UCDALI News

UCDALI is the University of Colorado Denver Association of Lecturers and Instructors. If that describes you, then you’re one of us! For more information click here: UCDALI Webpage

What initially drew you into engineering as a career?

As a child, I always loved math and science. I’d knew that I wanted to have a career in a field that utilized it. I also took into account how few women are in the engineering world, and wanted to be part of the movement to encourage more women to go into STEM careers.

You’re not only happening at the College of Engineering, but you’re also the Director of the Engineering Student Services Center. Tell us about the program and how you became involved.

The Engineering Student Services Center (ESSC) was established in 2013. The center provides academic advising as well as various other services to all engineering students at UCD, regardless of the specific discipline they are majoring in. The ESSC also hosts pre-engineering students transfer into the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences through the intra university transfer process. Each year approximately 1000 students are advised by the four faculty advisors we have on our team, which includes myself, Roxanne Hayes, Thomas Augustinus, and Chao Liu.

I have always been passionate about helping students be as successful as possible in their academic careers, and was so excited when I was offered the position to be the Director of the ESSC and provide this assistance to them on a daily basis.

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