

### ***Past VITAL Faculty Associates***

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>FACULTY MEMBER</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>
2025-2026	Dr. Christa Bialka	Education & Counseling, and Disability & Deaf Studies Program, CLAS	“Intercollegiate Pathways to Disability & Deaf Studies” pursues two goals: (1) explore the feasibility of expanding access to the Disability & Deaf Studies minor for students in the Colleges of Nursing, Engineering, and Business; and (2) use the data collected from college meetings, student surveys, and capacity analysis to create recommendations for curricular pathways. Inform future expansion of the minor grounded in comprehensive curricular analysis and realistic assessment of necessary faculty and financial resources.
2025-2026	Dr. Megan Cardwell	Communication, CLAS	<i>VITAL Faculty Fellow</i> Develop new graduate portfolio course that will accompany portfolio capstone and will help students curate, reflect upon, and package their work for their post-graduate careers. Course development grounded in graduate teaching experience, portfolio literature, and research on authentic assessment. Consult with the larger graduate faculty in department and obtain input throughout the course design process.
2024-2025	Dr. M. Laura Lenardon	Spanish, CLAS	<i>VITAL Brightspace for Learning Fellow</i> Explore the capabilities of Brightspace with more functionality and engagement tools within the goals and context of the Spanish for Heritage Speakers I course. Develop faculty instructional resources grounded in the instructional use of Brightspace tools.
2022-2023	Dr. Joseph Drury	English, CLAS	Conduct a formal review of the English department’s Core Writing courses to assess their fitness for purpose; and conduct research on equivalent courses at peer institutions to inform recommendations.
2021-2022	Dr. Jean M. Lutes	English, CLAS	Develop a framework for a university-wide infrastructure that connects students (undergraduate and graduate), faculty, and community members who work on sustainability and environmental justice projects. This infrastructure, currently

			lacking at Villanova, will serve as a central information hub for curricular, co-curricular, and research projects related to sustainability.
2021-2022	Dr. Carol T. Weingarten	M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing	Create an infrastructure and process for sustainable, Villanova-generated health programming; and (2) engage nursing students in purposive academic and co-curricular opportunities to instruct different audiences on health topics via radio broadcasting.
2020-2021	Dr. Christa Bialka	Education and Counseling, CLAS	Conduct internal and external research to learn about the ways that Disability Studies and Deaf Studies are integrated into college and university program offerings and present the research findings to Deans Lindenmeyr and Lucky, CLAS for review. The comprehensive report will inform the feasibility study of developing a Disability Studies and/or Deaf Studies Program in CLAS.
2019-2020	Dr. Ruth McDermott-Levy	M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing	Design first online global health course on the topic of climate change and human health with students and faculty from Finland, Nigeria, India, and Villanova
2019-2020	Dr. Kaley Carpenter	Augustine and Culture Seminar Program, CLAS	Synthesize research on technology and social media in the learning/teaching process and provide evidence-based guidelines on appropriate, learning-centered technology / social media application
2018-2019	Dr. Diane Ellis	M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing	Develop clinical simulations to increase students' knowledge and application of safe and effective nursing care interventions in the care of patients with Parkinson's Disease.
2018-2019	Dr. Jens Karlsson	Mechanical Engineering, COE	Develop a structured, spiral curriculum, which scaffolds technical writing skill development and builds complexity, titled Writing Instruction in Laboratory and Design Courses to Advance Technical Communication (WILDCAT-Com) for the department
2017-2018	Dr. Valentina DeNardis	Classical Studies, CLAS	The use of Office 365 tools to enrich faculty teaching, advising, and program administration.

2016-2017	Dr. Gerald Beyer	Theology and Religious Studies, CLAS	Design and implementation of the new Foundations of Christian Ethics course for the new doctoral program
2016-2017	Michele Pistone, JD	Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law	Research and develop a business plan for the creation of a new, competency-based certificate program to license non-J.D.s to work in immigration related jobs
2015-2016	Dr. Valerie Joyce	Theatre, CLAS	Define and refine assessments for arts based courses
2014-2015	Dr. Frank Klassner	Computing Sciences, CLAS	Develop a process to support Villanova faculty in using the CAVE (Automatic Virtual Environment) for teaching purposes
2013-2014	Dr. Rodger Van Allen	Theology and Religious Studies, CLAS	Explore and analyze Villanova's faculty resources for the emerging field of American Catholic Studies
2013-2014	Dr. Michael Posner	Mathematics & Statistics, CLAS	Develop a program to support Villanova faculty in conducting classroom-based research and engage in SoTL
2011-2012	Dr. Philip J. Stephens	Biology, CLAS	Develop VITALinks material for VITAL website
2008-2009	Dr. James R. Wetzel	Philosophy, CLAS	Faculty seminar on "Augustine's Fascination with Beginnings"
2007-2008	Dr. W. Ray Heitzmann	Education/Human Services, CLAS	Multiple choice and essay test development workshops
2006-2007	Dr. Markus Kreuzer	Political Science, CLAS	Develop Social Science Research Seminar
2005-2006	Dr. Fayette B. Veverka	Theology and Religious Studies, CLAS	Develop learning outcomes assessment for the department
2004-2005	Dr. Philip J. Stephens	Biology, CLAS	Instructional Technologies Mentor for faculty
2003-2004	Dr. Beverly B. Kahn	Education/Human Services, CLAS	Conduct systematic analysis of the Human Service curriculum
2002-2003	Dr. David Stout	Accountancy, VSB	Introduction to Business and Technology
2000-2001	Dr. Charles E. Ashley	Mathematics & Statistics, CLAS	Develop Actuarial Program

Updated: July 31, 2025