

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
FACULTY AREAS OF EXPERTISE BY DEPARTMENT**

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION	RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE
<b>Akenson, Ashley</b> Director, Graduate Programs	<a href="mailto:aakenson@tntech.edu">aakenson@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3177	Program planning & evaluation • Mindfulness • Transformative learning • Learning transfer • Quantitative & qualitative research methods
<b>Shanks, Kyle</b> Assessment Director	Kshanks@tnech.edu (931) 372-3558	Higher education assessment • Teacher education assessment • Data visualization
<b>Smith, Matthew</b> Interim Associate Dean	Mrsmith@tntech.edu (931) 372-3177	School Leadership • School & Community Partnerships • Career & Technical Education • Julius Rosenwald Schools • Character Education
<b>Zagumny, Lisa L.</b> Dean	<a href="mailto:lzagumny@tntech.edu">lzagumny@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3124	Critical discourse analysis • History of teacher education • Posthumanism • School textbooks • Social construction of identity

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING and PSYCHOLOGY		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION	RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE
<b>Burgin, Chris</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:cburgin@tntech.edu">cburgin@tntech.edu</a> (706) 248-4882	Happiness • Meaningful goals • Gratitude • Hope • Optimism • Awe
<b>Edwards, Derrick</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:dedwards@tntech.edu">dedwards@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3533	Emergency responder health • Burnout • Post-traumatic stress disorder
<b>Henniger, Nicole</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:nhenniger@tntech.edu">nhenniger@tntech.edu</a> (931) 371-7039	Social emotions (envy, jealousy, shame, guilt) • Applications of social emotion research (in patient-physician interactions, behavioral health, organ donation, stigma towards substance use and abuse)
<b>Hensley, James (Doug)</b> Senior Lecturer	<a href="mailto:jd hensley@tntech.edu">jd hensley@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3475	Child development • ADHD • Counseling • Teaching large classes
<b>Hermann-Turner, Katherine</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:Khturner@tntech.edu">Khturner@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3091	Qualitative research • Counselor education • Relational-Cultural Theory • Perinatal counseling • Motherhood developmental models • Working mothers post-COVID • Grandparent alienation • Gifted education • Family systems counseling
<b>Kazanas, Stephanie</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:Skazanas@tntech.edu">Skazanas@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3560	Human memory • Cognition and emotion • Evolutionary psychology Bilingualism • Critical thinking
<b>Loftis, Mark</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:mloftis@tntech.edu">mloftis@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3209	Suicide • Alexithymia • Addiction Counseling • Psychological & Mental Health Assessment • Rural Mental Health Needs • Ethics • Parenting skills for fathers • Adverse & Positive Childhood Experiences • Couples counseling • Spirituality in Counseling
<b>Luo, Ye (Agnes)</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:aluo@tntech.edu">aluo@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3217	Instrument Development • Translation & Validation • Review & Meta-Analysis • Asian Racial & Cultural Identities • Bilingual & Multicultural Counseling • Technology Use in Counseling • Counselor Education
<b>Michael, Tony</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:tmichael@tntech.edu">tmichael@tntech.edu</a> (903) 407-3800	Instrument Development & Scale Construction • Factor Analysis and Structural Equation Modeling • Patterns of Relating and Attachment Styles • Counseling and Play Therapy • Supervision and Mentoring • Program Administration and Evaluation
<b>Wiley, Jonathan</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:jwiley@tntech.edu">jwiley@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3058	Doctoral teaching preparation • Rural counseling issues • Federal-level mental health policy • Geographical disparities in mental health service delivery • Humanistic models of counseling, teaching, and learning • Qualitative methodologies • Phenomenological methodologies

<b>Wood, Katherine</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:kmwood@tnitech.edu">kmwood@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3090	Grief and loss • School counseling • School counselor training in grief and loss • Instrument development • Multilingual Learner (MLL) in K-12 settings
---	--	---

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION	RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE
<b>Akenson, James</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:jakenson@tnitech.edu">jakenson@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3066	History & Assumptions of Elementary & Secondary Social Studies • Applications of Country Music to the K-12 Curriculum • Big Data & Country Music: Applications for Research & Teaching Issues, History, & Assumptions of Education
<b>Anderson, Luke</b> Instructor	<a href="mailto:slanderson@tnitech.edu">slanderson@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3541	Secondary education • English education • Representation in curricula • Educational policy • Teacher stressors and burnout • Queer theory • LGBTQIA+ topics
<b>Anthony, Holly</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:hathony@tnitech.edu">hathony@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3854	Mathematics education • STEM education • Teacher preparation • Adult learning • Ongoing, sustainable professional development of teachers • Teaching and learning • Qualitative research in higher education
<b>Baker, Jane</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:jbaker@tnitech.edu">jbaker@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3079	Early literacy • Early numeracy writing instruction • Early childhood education • Early childhood special education • Family collaboration • STEM outreach • Inclusive practices
<b>Beach, Jason</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:jbeach@tnitech.edu">jbeach@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3069	Augmented/Virtual/Mixed Reality • Metaverse • Assistive Technologies • Adult Education • STEM • TPACK • Instructional Design • Computer Science Education K-12
<b>Beach, Natalie</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:nbeach@tnitech.edu">nbeach@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3857	Autism • Co-teaching • Special Education in the General Education Classroom
<b>Braisted, Lindsey</b> Instructor	<a href="mailto:lbraisted@tnitech.edu">lbraisted@tnitech.edu</a> (865) 372-6388	Literacy • ESL • Trauma Informed Instruction • Adolescent Education • Culturally Inclusive Classrooms
<b>Callender, Amy</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:amycallender@tnitech.edu">amycallender@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3550	Educational and medical journey for families of children with disabilities • Functional skills instruction in the school setting and inclusion practices for students with moderate to severe disabilities • Education for
<b>Chitiyo, George</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:gchitiyo@tnitech.edu">gchitiyo@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3676	Economics of higher education • Psychosocial aspects of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa • Quantitative research and evaluation methods • Chess in Education • Program Evaluation
<b>Comer, Melissa</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:mcomer@tnitech.edu">mcomer@tnitech.edu</a> (865) 481-2000 ext. 2363	Research interests: Appalachian culture and language patterns, looping in education, literacy, teacher education / Areas of expertise: Teacher education, literacy, English education
<b>Fidan, Perihan</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:pfidan@tnitech.edu">pfidan@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-6307	Elementary education • Data assessment • Field experience and applied educational assessment • Pre-service teacher education • Educational collaborations between schools and community institutions • STEM education in K–12 grades • Multicultural education
<b>Gleasant, Cory</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:cgleasant@tnitech.edu">cgleasant@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3557	Computer science education for K-12 and teacher prep • Computational thinking • Programming microworlds • XR technologies • Mathematics education • K-12 educational technologies • STEM curriculum design
<b>Grimes, Ka Rene</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:kgrimes@tnitech.edu">kgrimes@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3100	Specific Learning Disabilities (Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dysgraphia) • High Incidence Disabilities • Math Cognition Executive Function • Mental Health Risks Associated with Learning Difficulties • Autism • Data Mining/Learning Analytics of Educational Software • Special Education/Teacher Education • Self-Determination Theory • Universal Design for Learning • Research Methods: Qualitative, Quantitatively Experimental Designs, Secondary Analysis, Mixed-Methods, and Single Case Design
<b>Howard, Julie</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:jstepp@tnitech.edu">jstepp@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3103	Libraries • Library Sciences • Young Adult Literature • Technology • Artificial Intelligence

<b>Isbell, Janet</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:jisbell@tntech.edu">jisbell@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3824	Poverty • Literacy • Qualitative research • Book censorship • Equity and Social Justice • Rural Education and communities
<b>Jones, Angela</b> Senior Lecturer	<a href="mailto:arjones@tntech.edu">arjones@tntech.edu</a> (865) 256-7094	Teacher evaluation • Elementary education • Science of reading • Literacy instruction
<b>Kennedy, Krystal</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:kkennedy@tntech.edu">kkennedy@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3105	Applied behavior analysis • Autism • Positive behavior supports • School bus interventions • Single-case design research methods • Establishing international behavior analysis supports
<b>Koester, Cale</b> Senior Lecturer	<a href="mailto:ckoester@tntech.edu">ckoester@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-6482	Digital Media Project Based Learning • Comparative and Cross-cultural Education • Coding and Computational Thinking in K12
<b>Laffoon, Alicia</b> Senior Lecturer	<a href="mailto:alaffoon@tntech.edu">alaffoon@tntech.edu</a> (865) 354-3000	Inquiry based social studies practices • Visual literacy
<b>Lastres, Marlana</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:mlastres@tntech.edu">mlastres@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3087	Childhood Trauma • Child Abuse & Neglect • ACEs • Gender Microaggressions • Women in Academia • At-Risk Populations • Program Planning & Evaluation • Qualitative & Quantitative Methods • DEI Concepts/Framework
<b>McMillan, Elizabeth</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:emcmillan@tntech.edu">emcmillan@tntech.edu</a> (423) 994.8287	Elementary literacy best practices • Literacy curriculum • Educator prep programs
<b>Marcum, Rebekah</b> Senior Lecturer	<a href="mailto:rmarcum@tntech.edu">rmarcum@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3535	Influence of religious identity on teacher identities • Tolerance and diversity in early childhood education • Narrative inquiry • STEM and nature experiences for individuals with disabilities
<b>Meadows, Jennifer</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:jimeadows@tntech.edu">jimeadows@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-6269	Connecting real-world research to STEM classrooms • Informal STEM education • Elementary Mathematics Teacher Preparation
<b>Moore, Kelly</b> Senior Lecturer	<a href="mailto:kellymoore@tntech.edu">kellymoore@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3191	Science education • STEM • Makerspace technology
<b>Ogbomo, Queen</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:gogbomo@tntech.edu">gogbomo@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3618	Study Abroad (Gaining global Cultural Perspectives) • STEM Education. Online/ Distance Education • Grant Writing • Mathematics & Movement • The Relevance of Multicultural Education in Elementary Schools • Teaching for Social Justice • Poverty simulation activities on the attitudes of pre-service teachers • Culturally relevant pedagogy • Preservice and in-service teacher professional development • Recruitment and retention of teachers of color
<b>Park, Eunsung</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:epark@tntech.edu">epark@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-3116	Learning analytics and applications • Adaptive learning • Distance education • Computational thinking and debugging
<b>Pennycuff-Trent, Kristen</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:ktrent@tntech.edu">ktrent@tntech.edu</a> (865) 539-7395	Emergent literacy • Science and literacy • Academic language • Children's and Young adult literature • Grant writing • Professional development for educators
<b>Richards, Stephanie</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:srichards@tntech.edu">srichards@tntech.edu</a> (931) 393-1396	K-12 administration including the principalship and the superintendency • Diversity • Recruitment and retention of teachers • Practical application of pedagogy • Poverty • Bullying • School violence • Working with at risk students • Reader's theatre • Social Studies • Recruitment of underrepresented students into education • Using simulations in the classroom • Supervision of teachers • Supervision of students in field applications • Methods of teaching
<b>Silber-Furman, Dorota</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:dsilber@tntech.edu">dsilber@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-6570	Linguistically and culturally diverse populations • ELL/ESOL education and literacy • International education • Culturally relevant practices • Multicultural education

<b>Simone, Kinsey</b> Instructor	<a href="mailto:ksimone@tnitech.edu">ksimone@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3623	Predictors of student expectation fulfillment • Instrumental motivation and academic aspirations • Rural depopulation and outmigration • Societal stigmas towards and perceptions of obsessive-compulsive disorder • OCD • Qualitative and quantitative methodologies, including statistical software such as AM Software, R Software, IBM SPSS, and JASP • Program evaluation • Experimental designs • Factor analysis • Univariate and multivariate analyses of variance • Logistic regression
<b>Smith-Andrews, Sandi JW</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:sjsmith@tnitech.edu">sjsmith@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3207	• Educational Technology • Online Learning • Remote Learning • Immersive Technologies • Internet Applications • Leadership/Shared Governance
<b>Spears, Amber</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:aspears@tnitech.edu">aspears@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-6265	Early/Foundational Literacy • Summer Literacy Programs • Community literacy
<b>Suter, Leslie</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:lsuters@tnitech.edu">lsuters@tnitech.edu</a> (865) 372-3181	Integrated STEM education • Disciplinary computational thinking • Science education • Math education • Literacy integration
<b>Wehrmann, Sara</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:Swehrmann@tnitech.edu">Swehrmann@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-6567	Culturally responsive leadership • Multicultural education • Social Justice
<b>Welch, Callie</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:cwelch@tnitech.edu">cwelch@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3377	Co-teaching and inclusion • IEPs • SPED Laws • Classroom management • Rural education • Trauma informed practices • Social-emotional learning • Behavior interventions • Teacher satisfaction and retention
<b>Wendt, Jeremy</b> Professor, Chairperson	<a href="mailto:jwendt@tnitech.edu">jwendt@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3181	Educational technology • P-16 online learning and design • Virtual reality • Social media • STEM education
<b>Wendt, Stephanie</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:swendt@tnitech.edu">swendt@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3459	Elementary education • Science education • Scientific literacy and 3-Dimensional learning • Learning theory

DEPARTMENT OF EXERCISE SCIENCE, PHYSICAL EDUCATION and WELLNESS		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION	RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE
<b>Killman, Christy</b> Professor, Chairperson	<a href="mailto:killman@tnitech.edu">killman@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3539	Link between activity and brain development • Mentoring for success
<b>Korgaokar, Ajit</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:akorgaokar@tnitech.edu">akorgaokar@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3766	Blood flow restriction training for activation • Recovery • Sports Performance
<b>Mann, David</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:dmann@tnitech.edu">dmann@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3795	Physical education pedagogy • Behavioral aspects of physical activity • Motor learning • Coaching • Wellness
<b>Phillips, Michael</b> Professor	<a href="mailto:mbphillips@tnitech.edu">mbphillips@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3469	Cancer wellness programs and their effects on quality of life and fatigue on cancer patients • Zone 2 Training and its effects on overall fitness • Church culture and health behaviors
<b>Potter, Darek</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:dpotter@tnitech.edu">dpotter@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-6573	Rural populations • STEM education • Exercise science
<b>Ray, Brittany</b> Lecturer	<a href="mailto:belmore@tnitech.edu">belmore@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3765	Sleep - Does the amount of sleep affect/effect our cognitive and motor abilities. • Mental Health Disorders and their effect on motor abilities
<b>Severt, Bobbi</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:bsevert@tnitech.edu">bsevert@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3468	Athletic training education - advantages and disadvantages to a degree change • Concussions • Return to learn, rural vs urban athlete experiences • Women in athletic training - experiences and perspectives
<b>Smith, John</b> Instructor	<a href="mailto:jssmith@tnitech.edu">jssmith@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-6396	Corporate financial takeover of college sports
<b>Smith, Scott</b> Associate Professor	<a href="mailto:scottsmith@tnitech.edu">scottsmith@tnitech.edu</a> (931) 372-3736	Interscholastic Athletics • Interscholastic Athletic Administration • Sport Fundraising & Revenue Generation

<b>Wynn, Beau</b> Assistant Professor	<a href="mailto:kwynn@tntech.edu">kwynn@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-6736	Mobility and Flexibility • Physical Activity and Cognitive Functioning • Recovery Methods in Training • Physical Education • Fitness and Wellness, and Pedagogy
--	--	---

OAKLEY STEM CENTER

NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION	RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE
<b>Galindo, Carlos</b> Coordinator	<a href="mailto:cgalindo@tntech.edu">cgalindo@tntech.edu</a> (931) 372-6599	Multicultural marketing implementation in the U.S. • Advertising strategies targeting the Latino communities in the U.S. • Public relations “effects”