

New Faculty & Staff Bios – 2012-13

Kate Burnie joins the Advancement office as the Database Manager and Advancement Assistant. She previously worked for law firms in Cary, N.C., and Mobile, Ala. Kate graduated from Auburn University with a B.A. in English Literature and a minor in business administration.

Lana DuBose joins the Lower School as a Kindergarten teacher. Lana earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood from Winston-Salem State University and her Master of Education degree in Elementary Education from North Carolina Central University. She is in the process of completing her Master of School Administration in Educational Leadership from North Carolina Central University. Lana comes to Ravenscroft with 25 years of teaching experience and has taught students in pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade.

Elaine Erwin joins our pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten teams as an Early Childhood Assistant. For the last three years, Elaine has served as a library volunteer and substitute teacher for all grade levels in the Lower School. She has spent the majority of her time in the PK/K building as a long-term substitute for teachers and assistants. Elaine has also worked closely with Carol Miedema, Associate Director of Admissions, as a Gessell Developmental Screener for PK/K applicants to Ravenscroft. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from East Carolina University.

Sonja Fenner joins the Extended Day program as an instructor. A native of Raleigh, Sonja attended North Carolina Wesleyan College and received a B.S. in Business Administration. She previously worked in the insurance industry for 28 years. Sonja joined the Ravenscroft Extended Day program in May 2012 working primarily with third and fourth grade students. Prior to joining the Extended Day Program, she worked as a substitute teacher and a parent volunteer. Sonja has volunteered for many years working with children at all age levels, serving as a church summer camp leader, AWANA bible study leader, and for the past 12 years as a parent volunteer for a youth outreach ministry.

Angela Finn joins Ravenscroft as a Middle School Library Media Specialist and will serve as the Library and Information Services Department Chair. At her previous school, Our Lady of Lourdes, Angela directed professional development sessions covering research and library skills and collaborated closely with staff to meet the needs of students. She holds a B.S. in psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University and an MLS degree from East Carolina's Graduate School of Education.

Lower School is pleased to welcome back **Joni Keane** to our faculty. Joni taught fourth grade at Ravenscroft from 2007-09. She returns to Raleigh after a brief relocation to Kansas and will be teaching second grade at Ravenscroft. Joni earned a B.A. in Psychology/Teacher Education from the University of Illinois and her Masters of Science in Elementary Education from Southern

Illinois University. She brings a wide range of teaching experiences to her new position having taught second, third, fourth, and fifth grades during her 20 year career. In 2006, Joni was honored as the Taylorville Community Schools' Teacher of the Year.

Ginny Lam joins Middle School as a Mandarin Instructor, teaching all levels from sixth through eighth grade. Ginny earned her B.A. in Studio Art at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is completing an E-learning Graduate Program at N.C. State. Ginny has taught at the Raleigh Chinese Language School and has served as an Instructional Programmer at Versado Communications. Ginny also studied abroad at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The Middle School welcomes **Lorelei Lindow** as a guidance counselor. She previously served as a counselor at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte where she designed and facilitated guidance activities as well as coordinated an advisory program. Lorelei also developed programs for the transition from Lower to Middle School and from Middle School to Upper School and offered workshops for parent education and staff development. She earned her master's in counselor education from UNC-Charlotte and a B.A. in psychology from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Avani Patel joins the Advancement office as Digital Communications Coordinator. She graduated from N.C. State University in May 2012 with a degree in English. Previously, she worked with Marketing Zen Inc., where she served as a Content Development Intern that specialized in Social Media marketing, and at the N.C. State Undergraduate Admissions Office where she served as an admissions intern and ran a regular blog about campus life and activities.

Roxane Roberts joined the Lower School as a Physical Education teacher. She has experience teaching Physical Education and Health in North Carolina and New York. In addition to teaching she has coached Varsity and Middle School Girls Basketball, Varsity Cross Country and Track, and Varsity and Middle School Girls Soccer. Roxane earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education from Ithaca College. She played basketball and was a two-year captain for the Bombers. Most recently, Roxane was employed with Pearson Education where she worked directly with college faculty and students to provide print and digital publisher content along with technology training and support.

An independent school graduate with a bachelor's degree from Guilford College and a master's from James Madison, **Michael Ronco** comes to Ravenscroft with over 20 years of experience teaching English in independent schools that span the eastern seaboard from North Carolina to New Jersey to Massachusetts. Michael was most recently an English instructor at Durham Academy, where he also served as Director of Summer Programs. In addition to the extensive classroom and administrative experience that he brings to Ravenscroft, Michael also has put in many seasons as a lacrosse coach and official, as well as serving as an advisor to countless students. At Ravenscroft, he will serve as an advisor for a group in the Class of 2016 while also teaching freshman and sophomore English classes.

Rebekah Shearin joins Ravenscroft's Extended Day program as a Lead Teacher for fifth grade Extended Day. She has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Christian Studies from The College at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She has experience taking care of children from a recent nanny position and also from working at day camps as a Missions Projects team leader.

Jessica Yonzon joins the History and Social Studies Department as an Instructor in Economics. A graduate of Brown University where she doubled majored in Math and Economics and Applied Math, she earned master's degrees in both Economics and Statistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, from which she also received a teaching certificate. Jessica has taught a range of economics courses and also served as a student mentor. In addition to teaching a range of economics classes, as well as Global Studies, she will be assisting David Kates in the further development of our International Education programs.