

**BELOW ARE BRIEF NARRATIVES ON CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ECAC). THREE INDIVIDUALS ARE TO BE ELECTED FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS. THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD BY SECRET BALLOT DISTRIBUTED AT THE APRIL 22, 2010 ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING.**

Continuing members on the ECAC for academic year 2010-2011 are:

Craig Henriquez, (Biomedical Engineering & Computer Science), Chair

Ann Brown, (Medicine)

Marie Lynn Miranda, (Nicholas School of the Environment and Department of Pediatrics)

Suzanne Shanahan, (Sociology)

John Staddon (Psychology and Neuroscience), Faculty Secretary- pending 4/22 election

### **TWO -YEAR TERMS**

**Jennifer Devere Brody** is Professor of African and African American Studies and an affiliate in Theatre Studies and Women's Studies. Her interdisciplinary research and teaching include the areas of cultural and performance studies, gender and sexuality as well as visual and literary studies. She is the author of *Impossible Purities: Blackness, Femininity and Victorian Culture* (Duke University Press, 1998) and *Punctuation: Art, Politics and Play* (Duke University Press, 2008). Her work has been supported by a Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Ford Foundation, a grant from the British Society for Theatre Research and was recognized by the Monette/Horwitz Trust for Independent Research to combat homophobia. Her research on race, visual culture and African American Literature has appeared in journals such as *Genders, Signs, Callaloo, Theatre Journal, Text and Performance Quarterly* and numerous edited volumes. Since arriving at Duke in 2008, she has held positions with the Board of Duke University Press, the Executive Committee of the Center for LGBT Life, the Board of the Franklin Humanities Institute, the Faculty Advisory Committee for the Nasher Museum, the Arts and Sciences Council and the Academic Council. She also serves on several editorial boards and holds offices with professional organizations such as the Modern Language Association, the American Studies Association and the Association for Theatre in Higher Education.

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**Bill Seaman** is Professor in the Department of Art, Art History & Visual Studies. His research focuses on Neosentience, a potentially new branch of scientific and poetic inquiry related to artificial intelligence. The term Neosentience was first suggested in a paper by Seaman as part of a new embodied robotic paradigm, arising out of ongoing theoretical research with Otto E. Rossler. Rossler, theoretical biologist and physicist, and Seaman, artist-researcher, have been examining the potential of generating an intelligent, embodied, multi-modal sensing, and computational robotic system. Although related to artificial intelligence the goal of this system is the creation of an entity exhibiting a new form of sentience. He is also creates generative and "Recombinant Poetic" artworks that explore differing forms of image, music, text relationships through computational

interaction, combinatoric media/database aesthetics, as well as generative computer-based systems. His work *Passage Sets* (Wall of Light Version) has been featured on the digital wall in the link of late. His collaborative work with Daniel Howe, *The Architecture of Association* was just featured in the Chat Festival in the RENCI center, Chapel Hill and is also installed in the East Duke Building. He is currently working on A Virtual World Generating system in collaboration with programmer Gideon May and Rachel Brady at Duke's Dive which will become a open source tool for both artistic and scientific exploration. He is also working on the creation of a new set of digital tools to aid in contemporary research called the "insight engine." His teaching covers a number of differing Digital Media, Art and Visual Studies topics including: Experimental Interface Design; Perspectives – Navigating the Digital Visual; and Digital Image and Bit Play. He also taught a class related to observing the "Human as Electrochemical Computer." He is currently on the Visual Studies Steering Committee; The Visual Arts "Practice" committee; The Curriculum Committee; The Arts and Sciences Council; the AAH&VS Graduate Committee; and has recently joined the Academic Council. He is a member of DIBS and is active in ongoing research through RENCI at both Duke and Chapel Hill locations. Bill shows his digital artworks internationally and has won a number of awards. He is also active publishing in the field. See [billseaman.com](http://billseaman.com) to view documentation of a number of his works and a selection of his texts.

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**Steven Baldwin** is Professor of Chemistry, currently serving as the department's Director of Graduate Studies. He is also a member of the Pharmacological Sciences Training Program and a member of the PSTP executive committee. He has been at Duke since 1970 after earning his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Dartmouth College and the California Institute of Technology, respectively, and completing post-doctoral studies at Columbia University. Steve's research activities are in the general area of synthetic organic and natural products chemistry, with particular focus on the synthesis of biologically relevant small molecules. He is also involved in the collaborative development of new cancer imaging agents using positron emission tomography (PET). Steve has served as chairman of the Chemistry department (1995-1999) and Chairman of the Arts and Sciences Council (1999-2001). Other current and recent university service includes: Executive Committee of the Graduate Faculty; Committee on Facilities and Environment; Academic Council; University Schedule Committee; Undergraduate Conduct Board; University Library Committee; Faculty Associates Program (Men's and Women's Basketball).

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**Steffen A. Bass** is Associate Professor of Physics. He received his Ph.D. at the J.W. Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany, in Theoretical Nuclear Physics and was subsequently awarded a Feodor-Lynen-Fellowship by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for post-graduate studies in the US. Prior to joining the faculty at Duke in 2000, he held an appointment as visiting faculty at Michigan State University and during

his first five years at Duke also held an appointment as RHIC Physics Fellow at the RIKEN-BNL Research Center at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Steffen's research centers on the properties of the Quark-Gluon-Plasma (QGP), a primordial state of matter, which existed a couple of microseconds after the creation of the Universe in the Big Bang. Today, the Quark-Gluon-Plasma can be recreated by colliding heavy atomic nuclei at ultra-relativistic energies, and is the hottest and densest matter ever created by mankind. Investigating the properties of the QGP will lead to significant novel insights into the basic forces of nature and the early evolution of the Universe. Steffen's research is currently funded via several grants from the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation. In 2003 he received an Outstanding Junior Investigator Award from the Department of Energy. Steffen has served in various advisory capacities to the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation and is currently a member of the Program Committee of the Division of Nuclear Physics of the American Physical Society and on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Physics G: Nuclear and Particle Physics*. At Duke, Steffen is currently the Chair of the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Scholarship Selection Committee and serves on the Academic Council's Faculty Hearing Committee.

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**John D. York** is the Cancer Biology Professor of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology and an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. John received his PhD from Washington University and joined the faculty at Duke in 1996 with a primary appointment in Pharmacology and a secondary appointment in Biochemistry. Dr. York's research focuses on cellular communication pathways as they pertain to discovery-based science and in some cases disease states. In addition to teaching and training related to his biomedical research laboratory, Dr. York has embraced citizenship duties surrounding the academic enterprise and scientific community. He has organized several international science meetings, serves on grant review study sections, is a member of science advisory boards, and performs multiple editorial duties for scientific journals. Dr. York's university services include: Academic Council (01-03; 06-pres), Director of Graduate Studies (SBB program 00-03), Duke Transportation Advisory Committee (02-06; 09-pres), Basic Science Faculty Steering committee (07-09), Chancellor's Science Advisory Committee (08-pres; co-chair 09-pres), Chancellor's Academic Cabinet (09-pres), Basic Sciences and Centers Committee (10-pres), search committees for Chair and Faculty candidates across multiple departments, and graduate admission and executive committees. In addition to becoming an HHMI investigator in 2000 and a Cancer Biology Professor in 2009, Dr. York was awarded a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career award (1995), a Whitehead Scholar (1996), an American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology – Schering Plough Science Achievement Award (2002), and the Duke University William's Prize (2007).

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**Lawrence Zelenak** is the Pamela B. Gann Professor of Law. His publications include numerous articles on tax policy issues, a treatise on federal income taxation of individuals, and a casebook on federal income tax. He has been a member of the

Academic Council since 2008 and is currently serving as the chair of the Faculty Hearing Committee. Prior to joining Duke Law in 2003, Zelenak was a member of the Columbia Law School faculty. Before that, he was a faculty member at the University of North Carolina School of Law; professor in residence at the Office of the Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C.; an assistant professor at Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon; and an associate with the firm of LeSourd and Patten in Seattle. He has also been a visiting professor at the University of Utah's School of Law. Zelenak received his B.A., *summa cum laude*, from the University of Santa Clara, and his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Harvard Law School in 1979.