2014-2015 Academic Administration & Faculty

Mrs. Madeleine Abels grew up in Naperville, Illinois where she attended Neuqua Valley High School. She then traveled to the University of Dayton to receive her Bachelor’s Degree in Adolescent to Young Adult Education with a concentration in Language Arts. After graduation, Mrs. Abels moved to Louisville, Kentucky to teach middle school Language Arts at St. Rita Catholic School and lead the middle school Student Government program. She is currently working on her Masters Degree in English as a Second Language. Having lived in Ohio for college, she is thrilled to move back to “The Heart of it All” and to join the Cristo Rey community.

Mrs. Joy Bair attended Catholic Elementary and High School in Fremont, Ohio before relocating to Columbus to attend The Ohio State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Actuarial Science and a Master of Education in Mathematics Education. Returning to the classroom after being at home raising her children for several years, she is delighted to be teaching Algebra II at Cristo Rey Columbus High School. Her teaching background includes teaching Math at Pickerington Junior High, at The Ohio State University and at Columbus State Community College. Mrs. Bair, her husband John, and their five sons are members of St. Brendan the Navigator Catholic Church. In her free time, she enjoys running, volunteering at Bishop Watterson High School and at St. Brendan Church and School, attending all of her boys’ athletic and school events and spending time with her friends and family. She is honored to assist the students at Cristo Rey Columbus High School as they develop their full potential academically, spiritually and emotionally.

Ms. Michelle Bologna attended Roger Bacon High School in Cincinnati, Ohio and earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish and International Studies with a focus in Latin American Studies from Bowling Green State University. She then went on to pursue a Dual Masters of Arts Degree in Spanish and History at Bowling Green State University where she taught Spanish and Latin American History. Coming from a multicultural family, a Mexican mother and a Sicilian-American father, helped implement her passion for the world and how we are all interconnected. Ms. Bologna has studied and taught Spanish abroad in Alcalá de Henares, Spain, the University of Cincinnati, and most recently for St. John’s Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio where she found her calling in teaching high school students Spanish. During her free time, Ms. Bologna enjoys traveling, cooking, jogging, and salsa dancing. She is absolutely thrilled to begin teaching Spanish and World History at Cristo Rey!

Mr. Kyle D. Callahan grew up in a small town in Indiana. He went to Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana and received a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. He arrived in Ohio in 1991 to come to the University of Dayton, from which he received his Master's Degree in Theological Studies in 1993. He has spent the last twenty years teaching Theology at the Secondary level and as an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy and Humanities. He was the Religion Department Chair at St. Charles Preparatory School, where he taught for nine years. He is extremely excited to be at Cristo Rey, and has found a home here. He and his wife have five children, ranging in age from 20 years old to 22 months old!
Mr. David Clark is a native of Akron, Ohio where he attended Archbishop Hoban High School. He earned his B.A. in English from Kent State University. As a beneficiary of K-12 Catholic schooling and the son of two teachers, Mr. Clark felt compelled to pursue a life of service in Catholic education. In the summer of 2011, he worked with the national service program Lasallian Volunteers. As an LV, Mr. Clark was placed at Cristo Rey Kansas City High School, where he taught American and World History courses, a guitar elective, coached basketball and soccer, and moderated several student clubs. The experience of teaching at Cristo Rey was profoundly inspiring, and led Mr. Clark to his vocational calling of working with underserved students. Mr. Clark came to Cristo Rey Columbus most recently from his alma mater, Archbishop Hoban in Akron, OH, where he taught English and Math. He also worked for six years with Cleveland Catholic Charities as an activity coordinator and camp counselor at their SUMFUN summer program for mentally and physically handicapped children.

Mr. Oliver Corrigan teaches World History, American History, and AP US History at Cristo Rey High School. Mr. Corrigan holds an MS in Secondary Education from the University of Akron. For seven years Mr. Corrigan worked at a school for children with special needs as the social studies teacher and then as the IEP Coordinator. Outside of the classroom, Mr. Corrigan is the author of the textbook Our United States of America: Catholic Social Studies, published by Catholic Heritage Curricula. Prior to being a teacher, Mr. Corrigan worked at the University of Akron Archival Services, where he was responsible for preserving the memory of the World War II-era B-26 bomber plane. Mr. Corrigan also holds a BA in Theatre Arts – he has worked as a professional actor, and for several years was the Artistic Director of Newfangled Productions, a non-profit creative arts company that operated out of northeast Ohio. Mr. Corrigan lives in Columbus with his wife and 5 children, where they are members of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Mr. Corrigan is extremely excited to serve the students of Cristo Rey and to do all he can to help them achieve their dreams.

Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Ms. Julianne Corroto attended the University of Notre Dame for her undergraduate and graduate studies. She earned a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry and went on to get her Masters in Education from the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program. As a part of the ACE program, Ms. Corroto taught high school science and theology in Pascagoula, Mississippi. She is passionate about providing a holistic college-prep, Catholic education for all students at Cristo Rey Columbus as the junior chemistry teacher. She is excited and blessed to work with such wonderful students and teachers, open to growth and committed to learning.

Shelby Fischer is a native of Baltimore, Maryland where she taught high school Physical Education for 13 years. She and her family relocated to Columbus in the summer of 2015. Mrs. Fischer earned her Bachelor’s degree in Physical Education (PK-12) from Towson University, and a Masters of Education with a concentration in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment from Walden University. Mrs. Fischer has developed and implemented her own courses related to Women’s Fitness and Sports Management. Her personal love of fitness gave her the drive to encourage adolescent girls to become more active while promoting improved body image, and the experience she gained as a small business owner provided her the know-how to educate her students on athletic entrepreneurship. In her free time, Mrs. Fischer loves to explore Columbus with her husband and 2 young daughters. She is eager to begin this new chapter of her life teaching Health and Physical Education at Cristo Rey Columbus High School.
Ron Gillon was born in Greensboro, North Carolina and graduated from James B. Dudley High School. After graduation, he entered North Carolina A&T State University and graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Social Service. His first job after graduation was working as a supervisor attendant in a Juvenile Detention Center. Realizing that he needed to shift his focus, Ron began working as a Youth Counselor in a non-profit organization, counseling youth and their families on various issues.

Ron always wanted to travel and see the world, so he resigned his counseling position and entered the United States Air Force where he earned a Masters Degree in Counseling from Creighton University. While in the Air Force he was fortunate enough to be stationed in Nebraska, Texas, Alaska and The Netherlands, where he was able to travel extensively throughout Europe during his four year assignment. Ron retired from the Air Force after twenty years as a Paralegal and worked seven years as a Counselor at East High School in Anchorage, Alaska.

Ron moved to Ohio when his wife, Wanda, received notification that her job would be transferring her to Columbus. At that point he began working as a Counselor at Independence High School and remained there for ten years. Ron and Wanda have been married for almost forty years and have one daughter, Tosha, who also resides in Columbus.

Mr. Troy Hinder is Cristo Rey Columbus’ Dean of Students. His role at Cristo Rey is to support, manage, and enhance the school wide culture and climate. This includes, but is not limited to, managing student conduct, extra-curricular programs, and athletics. Mr. Hinder is originally from the central Ohio area and has earned degrees from Wright State University, Ohio Dominican University, and Muskingum University. His undergraduate study was in Political Science with minors in History and Psychology. His graduate study was in Business Administration, Teaching, and School Administration. Mr. Hinder is starting his 9th year in education and has previous served as Department Chair, Business Instructor, Dean of Students, and Formative Instructional Practices Coordinator in both private and public school districts.

Ms. Sarah Hoff is the Campus Minister at Cristo Rey Columbus and teaches Theology. A native of South Bend, IN, Ms. Hoff graduated from Indiana University in Bloomington with a bachelor’s degree in Religious Studies and English Literature. She is excited to return to her Midwestern roots after nearly a decade on the East Coast: She attended Boston College, where she earned a master’s degree in Pastoral Ministry and later a Post-Master’s Certificate in Spiritual Formation. She began her teaching career in 2008 at Malden Catholic High School outside of Boston, and comes most recently from Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC. Ms. Hoff has enjoyed many years of exploring spirituality and sharing faith with young people through parish youth ministry, camp ministry, retreats, and service trips, and is thrilled to have that privilege now at Cristo Rey Columbus.

Mrs. Laura Hubachek grew up in Toledo, Ohio. For college, she attended Bethel College and graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics Education and a minor in Visual Arts. After college, she taught for CCMT (Central City Ministries Toledo) at Rosary Cathedral Catholic School. There she taught sixth grade and discovered her passion for teaching diverse learners and sharing the love of Christ with them. Now, living in the Columbus area, she is excited to begin teaching at Cristo Rey Columbus and teach visual arts!
Ms. Stephanie Irby is a freshman English teacher at Cristo Rey Columbus High School. Ms. Irby earned her B.A. in English and Women’s Studies from The Ohio State University. As a thoroughbred Buckeye, she went on to obtain her Masters of Education from The Ohio State University. Ms. Irby comes to Cristo Rey from public education in Groveport, Ohio. She began her career teaching high school English, but found an affinity for middle school education through her role as an Instructional Coach. Ms. Irby is excited to make the shift back to high school instruction. Ms. Irby enjoys spending time with her family, friends and dog, Kai. She likes to read, garden and collect old things. An affiliate of Pomegranate Health Systems, Ms. Irby is an advocate for adolescent mental health. Most importantly, teaching is Ms. Irby’s passion, and she looks forward to collaborating with the faculty and students at Cristo Rey to promote college readiness.

Ms. Katherine Leach is a native of Columbus, Ohio and attended Immaculate Conception School until the age of 10 when her family moved to Buffalo, Wyoming. She attended Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Theology. Upon graduating in 2006, she began a Graduate Internship with Campus Ministry at Creighton University in tandem with the Master’s of Christian Spirituality Program which she completed in August of 2008. In July of 2007, Ms. Leach joined the Theology Department at Creighton Preparatory School where she taught and coached JV soccer for 4 years. In May of 2011, she left her teaching position to study Spanish for 6 months at the Maryknoll Language Institute in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Moving to South Florida in January of 2012, she took a position with the Diocese of Palm Beach as the Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Florida Atlantic University as well as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. She’s very excited to be teaching again and to re-connecting with her Columbus roots. Ms. Leach enjoys doing anything outside, drinking coffee, spending quality time with her dog, Toby, and embarking on do-it-yourself projects that take up all her free time.

Ms. Kelly McNichols is the Geometry teacher at Cristo Rey Columbus High School. Born in Columbus and a life-long product of Catholic schools, Ms. McNichols attended Immaculate Conception, Bishop Watterson, and the University of Dayton where she received her B.S. in Adolescence-to-Young-Adult Education in Integrated Mathematics. Ms. McNichols then went on to earn her Masters of Education from the University of Notre Dame through their Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Program. Ms. McNichols taught 7th and 8th grade math, Algebra, and 7th grade religion in Mobile, Alabama, for three years. There she founded and moderated the National Junior Honor Society, co-moderated the Scholars Bowl team, served as an assistant volleyball and cross-country coach, as well as provided before and after school tutoring. Ms. McNichols is thrilled to be a part of the Cristo Rey community and hopes to inspire her students to become life-long learners.

Ms. Angela Piñeiro is the Biology teacher at Cristo Rey Columbus High School. She is a native of Columbus and earned both her Bachelor of Arts in Education and her Master’s of Education at The Ohio State University. During her time at The Ohio State University she was a student leader at St. Thomas More Newman Center and was involved in planning mission trips and retreats. She studied marine biology at the Forfar Research Station on Andros Island in the Bahamas and aquatic biology at Stone Lab on Gibraltar Island in Lake Erie. Ms. Piñeiro taught 8th grade at Blessed Sacrament School in Newark, Ohio before joining the Cristo Rey community.
Ms. Marjorie Prince, a Columbus native, has taught Spanish for over twenty years. Ms. Prince earned undergraduate degrees in English and Spanish, and a Master’s degree in Spanish language and literature from The Ohio State University. Before coming to Cristo Rey, she taught Spanish at Columbus Academy. Previous to working at Academy she taught at Ohio University in Athens, and Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan where she was also chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. Ms. Prince believes that all children can become life long learners and can be inspired to dream big and believe in themselves in order to make positive contributions to society. She is excited to have the opportunity to teach and work with the students and faculty at Cristo Rey. Ms. Prince enjoys reading, listening to music, good conversations over coffee, and spending time with her teen-aged son. Ms. Prince and her son live in Clintonville.

Mrs. Carolyn Kirby-Rogers was born in Pittsburgh, PA moved to central Ohio as teenager, and graduated high school in Westerville, OH. She earned her undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and her MBA from Ashland University. Mrs. Rogers has taught all over the Columbus and Cincinnati areas. Her first teaching job was as a Work Study Coordinator, teaching 11th and 12th graders, in Lebanon, OH which gives her terrific insights for Cristo Rey’s Professional Work-Study Program. Most recently Mrs. Rogers has been working at St. Mary Magdalene, a Catholic K-8 school, as their Technology Teacher. Mrs. Rogers is married with two children and enjoys attending their competitive water ski tournaments, Boy and Girl Scout activities, music programs and ballet recitals. Teaching has always been her passion and she is very excited to be a part of bringing such a wonderful education system to the local Columbus community.

Mr. George Rooney teaches Algebra I and II. He was born and raised in Laredo, Texas and has degrees in computer science from Texas A&M and Dartmouth. He speaks Spanish as a result of Mexican roots and having lived and worked in Argentina. He worked in the IT, commodities trading, and energy industries for many years. After retiring from business he completed a teacher preparation program at Yale. Mr. Rooney taught high school math at the Graham School and 7th and 8th grade math at All Saints Academy. He is very excited to be part of the Cristo Rey Columbus community.

Ms. Margo Sheehan grew up in Fairfield, CT and attended Providence College in Providence, RI for her undergraduate and graduate education. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Social Work in 2013 and her Master of Education in Counseling in 2015. Ms. Sheehan’s involvement with the Office of Admission at PC for five years enhanced her passion for helping students with the college process. Although Ms. Sheehan has lived on the East Coast her whole life, she is a Buckeye at heart with her mom’s family being from Columbus, so she feels at home already. Ms. Sheehan enjoys being with her friends and family, and she loves sports, dogs (especially her dog Buckeye), reading, music, trying new foods and traveling. She can’t wait to help her students find the right college fit as the new College Counselor and she is thrilled to be a part of the Cristo Rey family.
Mr. Sheumaker grew up in Westerville, Ohio where he attended St. Paul grade school and St. Francis DeSales High School. He then graduated from Ohio Dominican University in 2007. Shortly after obtaining his undergraduate degree, he traveled to Egypt where he taught college level English courses. After spending slightly over a year teaching in Egypt, he started working on his Master’s degree in Biological Sciences, from Miami University in Oxford. During the course of his graduate studies he was able to conduct scientific research in various South American countries. After finishing his graduate studies, he took “a leap of faith” accepting a teaching job in Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq. There he was the High School Humanities Coordinator, English teacher, History teacher, and Biology teacher. This was one of his most enlightening experiences. He volunteered weekly at a Syrian refugee camp about two hours away from the school where he taught. The knowledge he gained from volunteering there will forever be a part of his life’s philosophy. He has a humanitarian spirit, is very environmentally mindful, and is incredibly excited to start this new chapter of life, settling down in Columbus, Ohio with his wife, dog and all of us in the Cristo Rey community.

Dr. Cathy Thomas comes to Cristo Rey Columbus with a long history of inner-city Catholic education. Prior to coming to Columbus to open Cristo Rey Columbus, Dr. Thomas was the founding principal of two schools, Guadalupe Regional Middle School (a Nativity-Miguel School in Brownsville, TX) and Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston. Dr. Thomas has a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Houston with her dissertation focus being the relationship between spirituality and resiliency in young people. Dr. Thomas began her teaching career as a math teacher on the Navajo reservation in Arizona. She then spent over two years in Nicaragua where she worked in human rights and shared the painful privilege of living in solidarity with those whose lives were so affected, often tragically, by the war of the 1980’s. After 25 years in Texas, Dr. Thomas is happy to return to Ohio where her family originally moved in 1963 when the college in Birmingham, AL, where her father taught refused to integrate. Dr. Thomas feels blessed to be a part of this amazing team of people at Cristo Rey Columbus and the important work of transforming Columbus one student at a time.