FDI-related Appointments in History and Religious Studies Add New Junior Colleagues to Stanford and CCSRE

The Faculty Development Initiative (FDI), a collaborative program between the Office of the Provost and CCSRE, is delighted to announce the addition of two new faculty. The appointments of both Katherine Gin Lum (Assistant Professor of Religious Studies) and Ana Minian Andjel (Assistant Professor of History) began September 1, 2012. They are the tenth and eleventh FDI-related appointments, respectively, made since 2008. Over the past two years, FDI searches have yielded five women colleagues including Jennifer Brody in Drama, Duana Fullwiley and Angela Garcia, both in Anthropology.

Katherine Gin Lum received a B.A. in history from Stanford in 2004 and a Ph.D. from Yale in 2010. She taught for a year at Princeton University before accepting Stanford's offer of appointment. She is a specialist in American religions. Her first book is under contract with Oxford University Press (Damned Nation: Hell in America from the Revolution to Reconstruction). It is particularly gratifying to have one of our own students return to Stanford as a colleague.

Ana Minian Andjel received her Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale University this past May. She received her undergraduate degree in 2005 from the University of Chicago. She joins the faculty in the field of Latin American history as a specialist in the study of international migration. Her doctoral dissertation, "Undocumented Lives: A History of Mexico-U.S. Migration from 1965 to 1986," is a fascinating study of unauthorized immigrants from Michoacan, Mexico who settled in Los Angeles and who live out their lives in bi-national ways with bi-national identities.

In the fall of 2010-2011, Stanford welcomed two more FDI faculty. Assistant Professor Corey Fields became a member of the Sociology Department, and Assistant Professor Vaughn Rasberry joined the English Department. Professor Fields' research focuses on the complexity of black identity particularly within the subgroup of African American Republicans, and Professor Rasberry studies black literary and intellectual history of the post-World War II era.

The Faculty Development Initiative will begin its sixth year with a search authorized in the Department of Sociology in the area of Asian American studies. Outreach to the Graduate School of Business and the School of Education may result in additional searches in 2012-13.

The FDI was originally proposed as a five-year effort but given its successes, the Provost has extended the program indefinitely. The cooperation of the Provost, schools deans (especially Richard Saller in H&S), and department chairs has allowed the FDI to make outstanding appointments across disciplines and schools.

Professor Al Camarillo, Professor of History, Leon Sloss, Jr. Memorial Professor and Special Assistant to the Provost for Faculty Diversity, will continue to direct the Faculty Development Initiative in 2012-13.