



Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this fall, we put out a call for nominees for a new CAS Dean's Fellows program. This program is intended to help cultivate leadership in our College and give our Dean's leadership team access to fresh perspectives on some of the university's most important issues and projects.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of the following three inaugural CAS Dean's Fellows for AY2017-2018, selected from an impressive pool of applicants:

Elliot Berkman, Associate Professor in Psychology. Elliot will help lead our efforts to develop discipline-specific research excellence metrics in the College, which has been requested of all schools and colleges by the President and the Provost. He was the faculty co-chair of the committee last year that examined the use of metrics and provided to the Provost's Office recommendations regarding their use for budgeting decisions.

Alison Gash, Associate Professor in Political Science. Alison will help plan the implementation of our vision for the new Tykeson College and Careers Building, including development of advising structures and opportunities for connecting careers to liberal arts majors. She has much prior experience in policy work with local and federal government workforce development programs that build school-to-career pathways. She has also been a leader in the innovative career pathways curricula developed in the Department of Political Science.

Leslie Opp-Beckman, Senior Instructor and Director of Innovation Programming in the American English Institute. Leslie will help lead our continued College-wide efforts to develop online curriculum. She has helped develop online and hybrid curriculum and programming at the American English Institute since 1996, and served on the Online and Hybrid Education Task Force, the Summer 2017 CAS Online/Hybrid Education Initiative, and the new UO Communities Accelerating the Impact of Teaching (CAIT).

The projects that our Dean's Fellows will help lead represent some of the most critical initiatives in the College and University this year. The Fellows will also be invited to many of our Dean's leadership team meetings, where they can offer insights to topics outside the specific projects they are working on.

I also want to thank the other faculty members who applied – and encourage them and others to apply in the future. The College will continue this program beyond this year. We will try this year to put out a call during spring quarter so that individuals can plan for the year ahead.

On a closing note, please join me in congratulating our new Dean's Fellows. We are excited and honored to have these individuals as part of our team this year.

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