



April 19, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

This past winter term we put out a call for nominees for the third year of our 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 and diverse perspectives on some of the university's most important issues and projects.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of the following three CAS Dean's Fellows for AY2019-2020, selected from an impressive pool of applicants:

Lamia Karim, Associate Professor in Anthropology. Lamia will help us consider the portfolio of majors and minors we offer undergraduates, including the role of smaller programs in the CAS curriculum. This project fits nicely with the overall conversation about the structure of CAS. Lamia has served as associate head of Anthropology, associate director of the Center for the Study of Women in Society, and as a faculty fellow in the Graduate School. Her research on gender, microfinance, religion and law has received major national awards and grants from the National Science Foundation, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, Fulbright Fellowship Program, and Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

Dave Sutherland, Associate Professor in Earth Sciences. The Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) and our marine biology program recruit top students to the UO and help us enhance our profile in the state. Dave has been significantly involved in the institute through his research, and his Dean's Fellow project will be focused on developing new majors aligned with the OIMB. Dave's research studying ocean dynamics in relation to estuaries and fjords has received numerous grants from the National Science Foundation, including a CAREER award, NASA, Oregon Sea Grant, and NOAA.

Ben Young, Associate Professor in Mathematics. Ben will help us explore ways to increase diversity in the natural sciences, focusing on best practices in recruitment, hiring, and retention. Ben has been trained as a search advocate through a program designed at OSU and recently piloted at the UO through DEI, and also has a distinguished record of diversity work at the UO. Ben won the Canadian Mathematical Society Doctoral Prize for his Ph.D. work, and his research is in algebraic combinatorics with applications in other mathematical fields such as algebraic geometry, representation theory, statistical mechanics, and random matrix theory.

The projects that our Dean's Fellows will help lead represent some of the most important initiatives in the College and University this year.

Office of the Dean

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I also want to take this opportunity to thank the other faculty members who applied – and encourage them and others to apply in the future.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Blonigen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" and last name "Blonigen" clearly distinguishable.

Bruce Blonigen
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