



University of Houston  
DOWNTOWN

*2017*  
*Faculty*  
*Awards*

Thursday, April 18  
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Robertson Auditorium  
Followed by Reception in A300

## Welcome

**Senate President-Elect – Dr. Trevor Hale**

Remarks from UHD President

**Dr. Juan Sanchez Muñoz**

Senate Report

**Faculty Senate President – Dr. Carolyn Ashe**

Faculty Awards

**Faculty Awards Committee Members**

**Dr. Travis Crone, Chair**

Faculty Development Leave Awards

**Committee Chairperson – Dr. Kevin Buckler**

Recognition of Faculty Years of Service

**Interim Provost & SVP Academic Affairs**

**Mr. Edward T. Hugetz**

## Outstanding Adjunct

**Charles Pelz**

Criminal Justice

**Joshua Reynolds**

Social Work

**Dalia Sherif**

College of Business

## Outstanding Lecturer

**Angela Goins**

Social Work

**Abigail Koenig**

Arts and Humanities

**Bridget Mueller**

Arts and Humanities

**Adriana Visbal**

Natural Sciences

## Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activity

**Floyd Newsum**

Arts and Humanities

**Katrina Rufino**

Social Sciences

**Michael Tobin**

Natural Sciences

Excellence in Service

**Maria Bhattacharjee**

Urban Education

**Ashley Blackburn**

Criminal Justice

**Ryan Pepper**

Mathematics & Statistics

Excellence in Teaching

**Judith Harris**

Criminal Justice

**Hank Rubicek**

Arts and Humanities

**Eszter Trufan**

Natural Sciences

Faculty Development Leave Awards

**Dr. Kristin Anderson, Professor of Psychology**

*Department of Social Sciences:*

The funded faculty leave will allow Dr. Anderson to pursue a book project on power, privilege and dissent by examining the processes of systemic and psychological power and privilege, and those who resist it. This project addresses the well-documented growing inequality in the United States— the most significant social problem of the present. This project utilizes the work from multiple disciplines in the social sciences and humanities and joins together micro- (psychology) and macro- (e.g., sociology, philosophy, communications) focused literatures to examine power and resistance to it. It speaks to present-day problems, including the political strategies and rhetoric that played a role in the 2016 election of Donald Trump to the presidency.

**Dr. Adam Ellwanger, Associate Professor of English**

*Department of English:*

The funded faculty leave will allow Dr. Ellwanger to pursue a book project that will be the first full-length rhetorical treatment of metanoia, a critical concept as old as rhetoric itself. In both the Greek and Christian models of metanoia, there is some dimension of regret and reinvention. As a concept inherently related to transformation, metanoia is a critical construct for understanding how identity is signified and reinvented in the postmodern era. As a means to understanding the new ways that identity and the self are signified in postmodern contexts, a comprehensive treatment of metanoia is needed. This project will chart the historical development of metanoia from the Greek era to the Christian era, explain how metanoic rhetoric in contemporary contexts exhibits important differences from earlier models, and demonstrate how this new theory of metanoia can be mobilized as an analytic tool for understanding how the rhetoric of personal conversion and transformation operates in the secular context of contemporary America.

**Dr. Lisa Morano, Professor of Biology and Microbiology**

*Department of Natural Sciences:*

The funded faculty leave will allow Dr. Morano to pursue three distinct goals around the central theme of urban agriculture and sustainability. First, Dr. Morano will analyze a massive microbial data set that has already been sequenced, but not yet analyzed. The bacterial communities sequenced were from two grapevine varieties (across a growing season) with variable levels of resistance to the plant pathogen *Xylella fastidiosa*. It is hypothesized that particular combinations of microbial species may be playing a protective role in plant resistance. Second, Dr. Morano will establish plant nutrition experimental protocols at UHD. During 2016, the Morano lab has genetically fingerprinted varieties of kale with the goal of linking fingerprints to nutritional differences in order to more easily determine which varieties are most nutritious. Finally, Dr. Morano will expand the impact of the Center for Urban Agriculture and Sustainability (CUAS) by creating a blog series about why sustainability matters. The novel projects supported by this leave could attract additional funding and undergraduate research opportunities to UHD students.

**Dr. Reynaldo Romero, Associate Professor of Spanish Linguistics**

*Department of Arts and Humanities:*

The funded leave will allow Dr. Romero to investigate, summarize and evaluate language maintenance efforts for Judeo-Spanish in a new book project, and follow up on his publication *Spanish in the Bosphorus*. Although Judeo-Spanish is currently an endangered language, recent efforts have encouraged language maintenance, intergenerational transmission, and cultural preservation. These efforts are promoted by different organizations, with different levels of success and duration. In order to ensure that the Judeo-Spanish community is benefiting from these linguistic activities, their methodology, agency, implementation, effectiveness, and objectives need to be evaluated with sound sociolinguistic research. Dr. Romero seeks to propose new methodologies to improve language revitalization and empower the Judeo-Spanish community with a guidebook for community-based approaches to save and preserve their language. The proposed book project will include a strong sociolinguistic foundation, but its content will be accessible to any community activist or group that wishes to apply these models to their own linguistic situation, not just the Judeo-Spanish. This material is crucial, as it is estimated that by the end of this century as many as half of the world's 7000 languages will be extinct. Judeo-Spanish is an integral part of Hispanic culture and history, and its disappearance would signify a great loss to Spanish speakers, Spanish diversity, and to research in Spanish linguistics.

## RECOGNITION OF FACULTY YEARS OF SERVICE

### **20 Years**

**Dr. Jane Creighton** , Professor – English

**Dr. Sandra Dahlberg**, Professor – English

**Dr. Ermelinda Delavina**, Professor – Mathematics & Statistics

**Dr. Greg Getz**, Professor – Social Sciences

**Dr. Dagmar Scharold**, Assistant Professor – English

### **25 Years**

**Dr. Sara Farris**, Associate Professor – English

### **30 Years**

**Dr. Jeffrey Flosi**, Associate Professor – Natural Sciences

**Dr. Margaret Shipley**, Professor – Management, Marketing & Business Administration

**Dr. Charles Smith**, Professor – Finance, Accounting & Enterprise Information Systems

### **35 Years**

**Dr. Steve London**, Professor – Mathematics & Statistics

## RECOGNITION OF FACULTY MENTORS

**Ahmad**, Janice

**Archiopoli**, Ashley

**Avrithi**, Kleio

**Benavides**, Maria

**Brusman-Lovins**, Lori

**Castro**, Esther

**Cervanka**, Mark

**Dalton**, Colin

**Davis**, Jonathan

**Flint**, RaShonda

**Flosi**, Jeffrey

**George**, Jessie

**Goins**, Angela

**Hatfield**, Elizabeth

**Henney**, Susan

**Hessel**, Tyra

**Jackson**, Charles

**Johnson**, Jerry

**Karson**, Lawrence

**Kintzele**, Paul

**Miller**, Stephen

**Minard**, Meghan

**Mitchell**, Laura

**Pavelich**, Andrew

**Pfeffer**, Rebecca

**Putnam**, Kyle

**Qavi**, Hamida

**Sack**, Jacqueline

**Soibam**, Benjamin

**Soto**, Julio Canedo

**Turner**, Erlanger

**Tzouanas**, Vassilios

**Valcore**, Jace

**Villegas**, Elizabeth

**Visbal**, Adriana

Yuan, Shengli



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