PREPARING FOR YOUR FIRST YEAR AS A FACULTY MEMBER IN THE HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Monday, May 9, 2011

PANELISTS

Eugenie Brinkema (brinkema@mit.edu)
Eugenie Brinkema is Assistant Professor of Contemporary Literature and Media at MIT. Her research in film and media studies focuses on violence, affect, sexuality, aesthetics, and ethics in texts ranging from the horror film to the body of films dubbed “New European Extremism” to the visual and temporal forms of terrorism. Abiding research interests include embodiment and sensation in ultraviolent film and literature, critical and cultural theory, literary theory, and psychoanalysis and continental philosophy, while more recent areas of inquiry have explored French gastronomy, sound and color. Her teaching interests span film theory to literary theory; serialized television to the horror film; formal questions of narrative, color, sound, time, and space to studies of trauma and violence. She received her Ph.D. in 2010 from Brown University’s Department of Modern Culture and Media. While at Brown, she received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Albert Spaulding Cook Prize in Comparative Literature, and the Joukowsky Outstanding Dissertation Award.

Adrienne Lucas (alucas3@wellesley.edu)
Adrienne Lucas is an assistant professor of Economics at Wellesley College. She joined Wellesley in 2006 and was reappointed in 2009. She is a development economist specializing in education policy and disease in sub-Saharan Africa. Her current projects estimate the effects of school quality on student outcomes in Kenya. Her work on malaria eradication was published in American Economic Journal: Applied Economics. She is member of the Malaria Economic Advisory Group of the University of California San Francisco Global Health Evidence-to-Policy initiative and was a member of the Health and Growth Project at Harvard University. She spent the 2009-2010 academic year as a visiting scholar at the Center for Health and Wellbeing at Princeton University. At Wellesley College she has taught Principles of Economics, Econometrics, Development Economics, and Economics of Disease and Destruction. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from Brown University in 2006.

Erin Sassin (eckhold@gmail.com)
Erin Eckhold Sassin is currently a full-time lecturer in Art History and Visual Culture at UMass Dartmouth. She is completing her PhD in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at Brown, where her dissertation focuses on the development of a building type serving single people in Germany from the 1860s to the 1930s and its relationship to the surrounding community, as well as its function as a social and architectural model for later modernist experiments. Erin is very interested in the intersection and co-dependence of the worlds of fine art, design and architecture in the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries, as well as housing reform and identity politics in art and architecture. She is currently working on several publications, both accepted for inclusion in edited volumes. One concerns the private/public world of middle-class German women in the late 19th century (in a volume on women and public space) and the other on architecture, power and ethnicity in Upper Silesia (in a collection of essays on empire in the First World War). Erin has also recently been published in a monograph on the work of local Providence architect Ira Rakatansky.

Teresa Villa-Ignacio (tvilla@fas.harvard.edu)
Teresa Villa-Ignacio is currently Lecturer on History and Literature at Harvard University and Visiting Assistant Professor of French at Boston University. She received her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Brown in May 2010. Her research and teaching interests include twentieth- and twenty-first-century French, Francophone, and U.S. American Literature, postcolonial studies, contemporary poetry, literary theory, ethics, and translation. Teresa is currently working on a book manuscript entitled Poetical Import: Emergent Ethical Sensibilities in Contemporary French-American Poetic Exchange, which examines how contemporary American poets’ practice as translators from the French are contributing to the transformation of contemporary experimental poetry in the United States. She is also a translator.
RESOURCES

ONLINE RESOURCES*

“PhDs - The Transition from Graduate Student to Assistant Professor”, University of California–Berkeley Career Center

“Tomorrow’s Academic Careers” – postings from the Tomorrow’s Professor Listserv

“Early Career Geoscience Faculty: Teaching, Research, and Managing Your Career”  
*NB: Although this is from a professional development website designed specifically for Geoscience faculty, it contains a wealth of online resources relevant to all new faculty. Topics covered include finding balance, efficient/effective teaching, developing your research program, and getting tenure.

From The Chronicle of Higher Education

• “From Graduate Student to Faculty Member”
• “Open Letter to 2010-11’s First-Time Tenure-Track Professors”

Selected “Random Thoughts” columns by Professor Richard M. Felder of North Carolina State University

• “The Effective, Efficient Professor”  
*NB: This article sums up the main points of Phillip Wankat’s eponymous book (listed below).
• “Things I wish they had told me” (coauthored with Rebecca Brent)
• “The New Faculty Member”  
*NB: This article summarizes the key points of Robert Boice’s Advice for New Faculty Members (listed below).
• “How to Prepare New Courses While Keeping Your Sanity” (coauthored with Rebecca Brent)

Quentin Vicens & Philip E. Bourne, “Ten Simple Rules to Combine Teaching and Research”, PLoS Computational Biology

“Surviving the transition from grad student to new faculty member”  
In a series of video clips, Carleton University Director of Learning, Technologies and Teaching Support Carol Miles addresses topics such as advantages/disadvantages of being a new faculty member, tips when starting your teaching career and maintaining professionalism.

BOOKS


Lucas, Christopher J. and John W. Murry, Jr., New Faculty: A Practical Guide for Academic Beginners, PALGRAVE (St. Martin’s Press), 2002.


*Clickable links for these online resources can be found on the Sheridan Center’s website:  
http://brown.edu/sheridan_center/consulting/jobmarket.html#first_year.