From the Dean

Welcome to the spring semester and the first spring edition of the Gazette. I hope you all had a restful and productive (it can be both!) winter break and have returned to campus with batteries recharged. With the new semester we welcome two new faculty to the Division of Science: Sriram Ganeshan joins us as an Assistant Professor in Physics. Sriram is a theoretical condensed matter physicist who joins us from the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics at Stony Brook. In Chemistry and Biochemistry we are joined by Daniel Keedy, a structural biologist whose appointment is through the ASRC Structural Biology Initiative. Daniel joins us from the University of California at San Francisco. Both Sriram and Daniel will be profiled in a future issue of the Gazette.

This semester starts with a bang with the February 8 visit of Erich Jarvis (Rockefeller) who will give two talks in the ASRC auditorium (details below). I expect them to be crowded, so get there early.

Here’s wishing you a great semester! Please remember to keep Cindy posted on events in your department so we can feature them here. And we always want contributions about your research, grants, publications, students and anything else you think is of interest to the Division. Don’t be shy!

Dean’s Special Colloquium
Thursday, February 8, 2018, 4:00 p.m.
ASRC Auditorium
Speaker: Dr. Erich Jarvis, Rockefeller University, Biological Sciences

Title: Insights from non-human animals into the neurobiology of human language
Abstract: Understanding language can be considered a final frontier toward understanding brain mechanisms of complex behaviors. Language was once considered unique to humans. However, the past several decades have seen a surge in nonhuman animal studies that inform us about language. This lecture will present a modern synthesis of these studies, from molecular, circuit, and behavior levels. A key new concept is that components of language, such as vocal learning, are continuous among species and therefore can provide insight into the mechanisms and evolution of language.

THE TIME IS NOW! Urge your students to secure their summer internships NOW. Here are a couple of great programs funded by CUNY:

Biostatistics Epidemiology Summer Training Program (BEST) & Program to Inspire Minority Undergraduates in Environmental Health Science Research (PrInMER)
BEST and PrInMER are looking for qualified upper sophomores who will be rising juniors for the fall to participate in summer research experiences. Please direct your students to the following websites for more information:
https://goeo.gl/GkhNdM
Students can also visit the dean’s office (MR1320) for printed literature about the programs.

EAS News

At the end of the Fall semester we said farewell to our own Sadie Barnes, long time secretary for the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, who retired after 12 years of dedicated service. Sadie plans to use her retirement to travel the country and spend time with her growing family. We wish Sadie the best and we already miss her greatly.

Mathematics News

CCNY graduate, Tai Danan-Bradley, is cohosting a youtube channel called “PBS Infinite Series”. She finished her undergraduate degree at CCNY in 2014 and is currently working on her Ph.D. at the CUNY Graduate center. For more details, click on the link below:
https://goeo.gl/ahpPgG

Physics News

Physics Colloquium
Wednesday, February 7, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
MR-418N
Speaker: Daniel Wolf Savin, Senior Research Scientist, Savin Group, Astrophysics, Columbia University, New York
Title: Laboratory Astrophysics Studies along the Cosmic Cycle of Gas

Send your news to rgonzalez@ccny.cuny.edu if you would like them to be featured here.