THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Item for Information

Subject: Henry Russel Awards for 2015

I am pleased to inform you that the Russel Awards Faculty Advisory Committee, chaired by Dean Janet A. Weiss, has selected four faculty members to receive Henry Russel Awards for 2015. This award, which recognizes both exceptional scholarship and conspicuous ability as a teacher, is one of the highest honors the University bestows upon junior faculty members. The awards will be presented on the occasion of the Henry Russel Lecture, to be delivered on March 10, 2015.

The faculty members selected to receive this award are:

Henriette Dina-Maria Elvang, Associate Professor of Physics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Kristin P. Kuster, Assistant Professor of Music, School of Music, Theatre and Dance

SangHyun Lee, Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering

Brian J. Zikmund-Fisher, Assistant Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health and Research Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, Medical School

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Sue Coleman
President

June 2014

Henriette Dina-Maria Elvang

Henriette Elvang is an associate professor of physics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Professor Elvang came to the University of Michigan in September of 2009 from the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton where she was a postdoctoral research fellow (2008-2009); prior to that she was a Pappalardo postdoctoral fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2005-08). She received her Ph.D. in Physics from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2005, and from the University of Copenhagen a B.S. (1998) and M.S. (2001).

Professor Elvang's general field of study is theoretical high energy physics. More specifically, she works on aspects of quantum field theory, gravity, supergravity, and particle physics. Her research interests reside at the interface between particle physics, general relativity, and string theory. Currently, she is working on new methods for calculating scattering processes and on problems related to understanding fundamental properties of quantum field theories.

She is considered a distinguished leader in the generation of researchers in theoretical high energy physics who've entered the ranks of faculty in the preceding decade. Among her 40 papers 14 already have over 50 citations. In fact her published works average over 60 citations per paper. Currently, she holds four substantial grants on which she is PI or co-PI including an NSF CAREER Award (2010-15) and a Cottrell Scholar Award for research and teaching (2013-15).

The clarity for which she is known in the international research community has been a hallmark of her outstanding teaching in both survey courses and graduate courses. Professor Elvang recently proposed a novel curricular development to the physics sequence. Similarly, she is routinely sought out as a mentor by undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral research fellows. In addition to her outstanding record as a scholar and teacher she has already established a notable record of service to the department and to the university.

Kristin P. Kuster

Kristin P. Kuster received her B.A. from the University of San Diego in 1995 and then her M.M. from the University of Colorado in 1998. She earned her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Michigan in 2002, having studied with William Bolcom, Michael Daugherty, Evan Chambers, and William Albright. She then taught as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Composition at Denison University and pursued a successful freelance composing career prior to her return to the University of Michigan in 2008 as an Assistant Professor of Composition in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance. In the years since she has demonstrated an outstanding record of creativity and of teaching others to be creative.

Professor Kuster's music has received support from such organizations as the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Argosy Foundation, the American Composers Forum, the American Composers Orchestra, and the Larson Family Foundation among many others. She has received commissions from ensembles such as the Plymouth Symphony, the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, the New York Central City Chorus, the PRISM Saxophone Quartet, the Summerfest Chamber Series, 45th Parallel, and the Vox Early Music Ensemble. In fact, between 2003 and 2013 she held 30 guest composer residencies. Among her many awards are the Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the Underwood Emerging Composer Commission from American Composers Orchestra.

Professor Kuster has emerged in the past eight years as one of the most sought after teachers of composition at the university by both undergraduate and graduate students. Just as her compositions involve collaboration with artists across a range of media, she exhibits a rich and multi-faceted pedagogy of composition. She has already served on 13 dissertation committees at Michigan, is the graduate advisor in the composition department, and has taken on the role of departmental director of social media.

SangHyun Lee

SangHyun Lee, currently an Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering, received his B.E. in Architectural Engineering from Dong-A University (2000). He then attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for his M.Sc in Civil Engineering (2003) followed by a Ph.D. in Construction Management and Information Technology (2006). Professor Lee joined the faculty at the University of Michigan in 2010 as a professor in the Construction Engineering and Management program, following an appointment as an assistant professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Alberta.

Professor Lee's research centers on the understanding and management of construction dynamics through the design and development of mechanisms, models, and systems that integrate automatic data acquisition, computer simulation, and visualization, particularly in mega construction projects.

In his short time at Michigan he has already developed an exemplary record of accomplishment in multidisciplinary scholarship and teaching. Professor Lee is an extremely productive scholar, having published 38 journal papers, 68 conference papers, and secured two patents. At the same time, he has also developed two new courses at UM while introducing a new and important module, Building Information Modeling, to two other courses.

Professor Lee has the distinction of serving as the Primary Investigator on two grants received from the National Science Foundation from both the engineering and social science directorates, and these are among many other grants which total $3.484 million and all of which demonstrate his multidisciplinary nature. He has been the recipient of numerous fellowships, awards for best paper, and other honors, the most recent being named the John L. Tishman CM Faculty Scholar (2013-2015).

Professor Lee's professional leadership and service activities have ranged from membership on the departmental curriculum committee, to journal editorships to his current position as Chair of the American Society of Civil Engineers' Construction Research Council. He is the first assistant professor to hold this leadership position—a reflection of the high regard of his colleagues for him and reputation he holds within his profession.

Brian J. Zikmund-Fisher

Brian J. Zikmund-Fisher is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Behavior and Health Education in the School of Public Health, as well as a Research Assistant Professor in Internal Medicine at the Medical School. In addition, he directs the Internet Survey Lab at the Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine, is a core faculty member of the Risk Science Center and the Health Informatics program, and is affiliated with the Center for Health Communications Research. He earned his M.A. (1997) and Ph.D. (2002) in Behavioral Decision Theory at Carnegie Mellon University.

Professor Zikmund-Fisher uses his interdisciplinary background in decision psychology and behavioral economics to study factors that affect individual decision making about a variety of health and medical issues, with a particular emphasis on health and environmental risk perceptions and the effects of poor numeracy on health and medical decision making. His research in health communications focuses on making risk statistics and other types of quantitative health information meaningful and useful for decision making by patients and the public.

Currently, Professor Zikmund-Fisher is Principal Investigator of a multi-year award from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to develop and test novel ways of displaying laboratory test results in patient portals of electronic health record systems that will make these data more useful and meaningful to patients. His past projects include acting as the Principal Investigator of the Community Perceptions of Dioxins Study funded by the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, and co-leading the National Survey of Medical Decisions project. Overall, he has been the PI, Co-PI, or Co-Investigator of external research grants totaling over $14 million in direct costs.

Professor Zikmund-Fisher has been first or second author on 24 of the 55 published papers since 2009 and served as senior author (per medical authorship practices) on another 14 articles. Notably, all the papers involve multiple authors, including students and more junior colleagues, and demonstrate his significant leadership and collegiality on research teams.

He teaches graduate courses in risk communication and designing health messages and also excels in mentoring and advising. Professor Zikmund-Fisher has served on eight doctoral committees, four times as chair or co-chair. He has also mentored students outside of the School of Public Health as well as multiple post-doctoral fellows.