Boston University Office of the Provost

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TO: Boston University Deans, Faculty and Staff

FROM: Jean Morrison, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer
            Karen Antman, Dean of the School of Medicine and Medical Campus Provost

DATE: September 11, 2015

SUBJECT: 2015-2016 Career Development Professorship Awardees

Each year, Boston University has the pleasure of recognizing a handful of talented junior educators emerging as future leaders within their respective fields through the award of Career Development Professorships. Made possible through the generous support of distinguished donors and alumni, these professorships are presented to promising junior faculty who have been at BU for no more than two years.

This fall, we are delighted to announce the award of four such named professorships, two of which will have their first honorees during the 2015-2016 academic year.

Endowed since 2006 by BU Trustee Peter Paul, The Peter Paul Career Development Professorship is awarded each year to junior faculty University-wide. The East Asia Studies Career Development Professorship, meanwhile, was launched this past January through the backing of a BU alumnus based in Taiwan and recognizes assistant professors in the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Communication, the College of Fine Arts, and the Questrom School of Business whose research is specific to East Asia. Both of these awards include a three-year, non-renewable stipend designed to support scholarly or creative work, as well as a portion of the recipients' salaries. Nominations are submitted by academic deans from across the University, and awardees are selected by the Office of the Provost.

Beginning this year, the Boston University School of Medicine will award its inaugural Aram V. Chobanian Assistant Professorship. Made possible by generous support in honor of former BU President Aram Chobanian, the Chobanian Assistant Professorship is presented to a full-time Assistant Professor in the School of Medicine as part of BUSM's ongoing efforts to recruit and retain outstanding junior faculty. This three-year award provides salary and fringe benefits to the selected faculty member. Nominations are submitted by faculty within the School of Medicine, and awardees are selected by an awards selection committee of senior professors.

Additionally, this year, the College of Engineering, in partnership with BU alumnus Peter Levine (ENG '83), has established the Peter J. Levine Career Development Professorship to support

rising junior faculty in the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering. Awardees are selected by the Dean and receive a three-year stipend to support scholarly and laboratory work.

Both individually and collectively, these awards highlight the caliber, potential, and continued vitality of Boston University's diverse faculty, and serve to buttress BU's ongoing efforts to lead not only as a global research institution, but also as an incubator of outstanding young talent and exciting new ideas.

This year's Career Development Professorship recipients have been cited for their exceptional accomplishments in their areas of study, for the passion they bring to the creation and transmission of knowledge, and their efforts to enhance the student experience. Whether crossing disciplines to make tangible and lasting research discoveries or authoring foundational texts and new approaches in their fields of exploration, all are having substantial impact and forecast an exceptionally bright future for scholarship at Boston University.

We are delighted to announce that this year's Peter Paul, East Asia Studies, Aram V. Chobanian and Peter J. Levine Career Development Professors are:

Peter Paul Career Development Professorship

- **Angela Robertson Bazzi**
  Assistant Professor of Community Health Sciences, School of Public Health
  Angela Robertson Bazzi's research explores social and structural determinants of disparities in infectious diseases, focusing on drug use and sex risk behaviors among populations both in the U.S.-Mexico border region and in the Boston area. She is a graduate of the University of Southern California and received her Master's degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and her doctorate in Public Health from the University of California, San Diego.

- **Sam Ling**
  Assistant Professor of Psychological & Brain Sciences, College of Arts & Sciences
  A computational neuroscientist, Sam Ling uses numerous approaches, including psychophysics and functional magnetic resonance imaging, to better understand how the brain perceives and consciously experiences the visual world. He is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University, received his doctorate in Psychology from New York University, and completed his postdoctoral work at Vanderbilt University.

- **Elizabeth (Bess) Rouse**
  Assistant Professor of Organizational Behavior, Questrom School of Business
  Bess Rouse's research examines the role of social interactions in the creative process, drawing on identity and ownership theories to understand how creative workers psychologically attach and detach from the products they make. She is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received her Master's degree in Organization Studies and her doctorate in Management and Organization from Boston College.

- **Jennifer Talbot**

Assistant Professor of Biology, College of Arts & Sciences
A microbial biologist, Jennifer Talbot utilizes biochemical analysis and advanced sequencing technologies to help uncover the unique mechanisms microbes use to process carbon and nutrients through ecosystems. She is a graduate of Boston University, received her doctorate in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Irvine, and completed her postdoctoral research at Stanford University.

East Asia Studies Career Development Professorship

- **Julie Klinger**
  Assistant Professor of International Studies, Pardee School of Global Studies
  Julie Klinger's in-depth fieldwork in global geography examines rare earth prospecting and mining, with special emphasis on the development and geopolitics of resource frontiers in China, Brazil, and Outer Space, and their impact on local populations and environments. She is a graduate of both Columbia University and Sarah Lawrence College, holds a certificate in China Studies from Johns Hopkins University, and received her doctorate in Geography from the University of California, Berkley.

Aram V. Chobanian Assistant Professorship

- **Neil Ganem**
  Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Medicine, School of Medicine
  Neil Ganem's research in cancer cell biology uses a variety of novel methods – including high-resolution microscopy and bioinformatics – to study the causes and consequences of genome instability in human cancer and to define the tumor suppression mechanisms that limit the proliferation of highly abnormal aneuploid cells. He is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, received his doctorate in Biochemistry from Dartmouth College and completed his postdoctoral research in Pediatric Oncology at Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Harvard Medical School.

Peter J. Levine Career Development Professorship

- **Brian Kulis**
  Assistant Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering, College of Engineering
  An expert in computer vision applications, Brian Kulis works to devise new methods that make it easier to analyze large-scale data, with a focus on helping resolve core problems in machine learning, including metric learning, content-based search, clustering, and online learning. A graduate of Cornell University, he received his doctorate in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Austin and completed his postdoctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley.

Please join us in congratulating these talented educators for this achievement, and in wishing them the best of luck with their teaching and research in the years ahead.

cc: Robert A. Brown
        Provost's Cabinet