



3240 Fort Road • Toppenish, WA 98948
(509) 865-8500

Date: August 25, 2014

Contact: David Mance, Media Relations Coordinator, 509-969-6084 or
mance_d@heritage.edu.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nobel Prize Winner among record number of new faculty at Heritage University

Toppenish, WA – A Nobel Prize winner is among 19 new full-time faculty additions this fall at Heritage University, a new record for the higher learning institution. The new faculty also included nine who have completed their doctoral studies.

Dr. Curt Guaglianone, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs at Heritage University, says the faculty additions represent a continuing effort by Heritage administration to provide its students the opportunity to learn from instructors who are considered the best in their fields. "We are proud to have acquired these top-notch individuals with proven track records of success, and excited for our students to have a wide range of experts educate them," says Guagilanone.

The nineteen are:

Michael Durst joins Heritage University as an associate professor for the College of Arts & Sciences. Durst shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005 at the International Atomic Energy Agency for his work on spent fuel removal from Serbia to Russia. The project, valued at more than \$40 million, was the largest in IAEA history. Durst has a 40 year career in nuclear science and education, and was most recently at Columbia Basin College in Pasco, Washington, where he served as the director for the Moore Observatory and adjunct professor. Durst earned his Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Mala Barik is an assistant professor in the arts and science department at Heritage. Since 2008 Barik has served as an adjunct professor at Heritage, and has more than 22 years teaching experience at different grade levels overall. She holds a master's degree in chemistry from Ravishankar University in Raipur, India.

- More -

Dr. Teddi Beam-Conroy joins Heritage University as an associate professor of bilingual education. Previously she worked as a bilingual/gifted and talented teacher consultant for the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio, Texas. Beam-Conroy holds a PhD. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Texas at Austin.

Kimberly Bellamy joins Heritage University as an assistant professor in criminal justice for the College of Arts & Sciences. Bellamy previously taught criminal justice as an adjunct instructor at Heritage in the spring of 2011. She also worked for the Orange County Sheriff's Office in Orlando, Florida for nearly 23 years, serving as an administrative sergeant before leaving. Bellamy holds a master's of science degree from the University of Central Florida.

Laurie Beltman returns to Heritage University as assistant professor of business after serving as an adjunct professor of business from 2008-2010. Beltman also lectured at the University of Washington. Beltman graduated from Heritage University with a B.A. in interdisciplinary studies with an emphasis in public administration, and she earned a master of science in organization development from Central Washington University.

Dr. Kenneth Bergevin joins Heritage University as an associate professor of education administration. Before then, Bergevin has eleven years of experience as a superintendent; his most recent post was with the Richland School District in Shafter, California for seven years. Bergevin holds an Ed.D. in organizational leadership from Pepperdine University.

Dr. Dina Blum, chair of the education administration program and associate dean of the College of Education & Psychology, comes to Heritage University from Equal Opportunities Schools in Seattle, Washington, where she was an associate director of program and partnership director. Blum holds an Ed.D. in Leadership for Learning Program from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Michael Cable is now a humanities professor at Heritage University, but his role at Heritage goes back to 2012 when he began working as an adjunct professor teaching linguistics. Cable's teaching duties later expanded to include technical writing and writing in the social sciences. Cable holds a master's of arts degree in English Writing and Composition from Heritage University.

Katrina Dohn joins Heritage as an assistant professor for the BLE program after being an adjunct BLE professor. Dohn spent seven years as a math instructional coach for the Tukwila School District. In 2012 she earned her ELL endorsement from Heritage University, and also earned a master's of arts in education from the University of Washington.

Dr. Nancy Elizabeth Encarnacion joins Heritage as an associate professor for the BLE program. Previously she served as a Secondary English as a Second Language Specialist for the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio, Texas. Encarnacion earned an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Rachel Flynn joins Heritage as an instructor for the arts & sciences department. Previously she worked as an English Department graduate instructor for Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Washington. Flynn earned a master of arts degree in English literature at EWU.

Dr. Yusuf Incetas joins Heritage as an instructor for the BLE program. Incetas earned a Ph.D. in education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Champaign, Illinois. He comes to Heritage after serving two years as an assistant professor for the U.S. Department of Defense's Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. Before then he taught ESL at the Institute for English Language Programs at Harvard University.

Dr. Teresa Julian is now an associate professor for the nursing program at Heritage University. Previously, Julian was an associate professor for the School of Nursing at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She earned a Ph.D. in Family Relations & Human Development from Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Blake Slonecker joins Heritage University as the chair for the department of humanities. Slonecker earned a Ph.D. in history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before Heritage, Slonecker worked for five years as an assistant professor of history at Waldorf College in Forest City, Iowa.

Dr. Cathy Stilwell is now the chair for the department of social work at Heritage. Stilwell earned a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Technology from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. Before Heritage, she worked as a faculty/field liaison for six years at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Vicky Swank joins Heritage University as assistant professor of business, after working for Health Management Associates in different locations for more than 20 years (with the past 11 years at HMA's Yakima Regional Medical Center). During this time, Swank rose up the ranks from director of accounting, to chief financial officer. Swank earned her MBA from Nova University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Kari Terjeson joins Heritage as an associate professor for the College of Education & Psychology. Previously Terjeson was a literacy coordinator for the HU105 teacher preparation program offered by Heritage University and Educational Service District in Yakima, Washington. Terjeson is currently working on a Ph.D. in special education at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Tamera Wiley-Fauth joins Heritage University as an assistant professor of math and computers for the College of Arts & Sciences. Wiley-Fauth has spent the majority of her teaching career and pursuit of higher education in central Washington. Before arriving at Heritage, she worked as a mathematics teacher at Wapato High School in Wapato, Washington for twelve years. She earned a master of arts in teaching from Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, and earned a bachelor of arts degree in math from Heritage College (now known as Heritage University)

Valerie Woerner, assistant professor of business, joins Heritage University with 21 years of experience as president of three different ag-related companies in Yakima and northern California. She's also worked as a chief operations officer and chief financial officer for two other ag-companies, and has lectured at California State University at Monterey Bay. Woerner earned her M.B.A. in finance and marketing from the University of Michigan.

For more information contact Curt Guaglianone, Provost/VP Academic Affairs, (509) 865-8530 or guaglianone_c@heritage.edu.

#

Heritage University is a non-profit, independent, regionally accredited institution of higher education offering undergraduate and graduate education across the state of Washington.