CUNY Office of Recruitment and Diversity Welcomes Faculty Fellowship Publication Program 2017-2018 Cohort

On December 1, the new Faculty Fellowship Publication Program (FFPP) cohort was warmly welcomed by FFPP Academic Director, Shelly Eversley of Baruch College, University Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, Annemarie Nichols-Grinenko of the Office of Academic Affairs, and eight FFPP Faculty Mentors. This University-wide initiative assists full-time untenured assistant professors in the design and execution of writing projects essential for tenure. And while other opportunities exist for mentorship and professional development, FFPP is unique as it is the only professional development opportunity available to all tenure-track faculty across the CUNY system. Indeed, to quote a 2016 FFPP Fellow, “It was the best experience I have had at CUNY so far.”

Professor Eversley spoke about how CUNY’s working class scholarship serves as an economic driver of upward mobility for New York City and beyond, while Dean Grinenko discussed how FFPP facilitates knowledge creation and reinforced the need to develop a circle of advisors. This academic year’s cohort of 56 assistant professors were selected for participation in what is recognized as CUNY’s signature faculty mentoring program. A total of 8 working groups will meet throughout the spring term for three-hour sessions to critically engage in research projects that include scholarly articles, creative writing and book chapters as well as grant, fellowship and book proposals.

The FFPP Orientation featured a special presentation by University Scholarly Communications Librarian Megan Wacha whose talk Write to Be Read: Research, Impact, and CUNY Academic Works jumpstarted the conversation on how the academic publication industry has evolved over the years. Ms. Wacha provided open access resources as alternatives to what has become a costly marketplace for academics. This was followed by group sessions where faculty began the arduous work of the writing process, sharing draft documents for the purpose of critique, revision and refinement.

It was a powerful day, both inspiring and practical, with FFPP Fellows continuing their conversations with their Mentors well beyond lunch and into the afternoon. All were equally energized – FFPP knows what it takes to produce a University-wide community of engaged scholars and teachers, dedicated to the success of all CUNY students.

For more information on FFPP, contact Maryann.Mckenzie@cuny.edu 646-664-3307