

PPFP Leadership Announcement

We are very pleased to announce that the leadership of the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) is moving from one set of capable hands to another.

Sheila O'Rourke--who has served for over 15 years as the Director of the UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) and for 6 years as the Director of the Berkeley Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program—has just begun a new appointment as Associate Campus Counsel and Special Advisor to the Vice Provost at UC Davis. Under her leadership, PPFP has demonstrated significant successes, supporting over 65 fellows this year and over 115 former fellows who have obtained UC faculty appointments just since 2003. In these years, she has been responsible for building a strong systemwide network of fellows, mentors, and allies who have made this a premier, nationally –recognized program. The University has been fortunate to have Sheila in this role; please join us in thanking her for such distinguished service.

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Caroline M. Kane, Professor Emerita in Residence, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (UC Berkeley), will serve as Interim Director for PPFP as of August 1, 2014. Caroline brings years of experience supporting diversity and equity in higher education, including the HHMI-funded Biology Scholars Program, working with Berkeley's Coalition for Excellence and Diversity in Math, Science and Engineering, being a former Board Member of the National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities, and activity with the Education and Women in Cell Biology Committees of the American Society for Cell Biology. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the Award for Distinguished Service from the American Society for Cell Biology (2012), The Chancellor's Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence (2007), and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Math and Engineering Mentoring (1998). She earned her PhD from UC Berkeley in Biochemistry and has been on the faculty at Berkeley since 1989, with a research focus in gene regulation and understanding how a cell selects the genetic information it needs to use.

The search for a permanent director will be coordinated through Academic Affairs at UCOP in the coming months.

And please do not forget that on October 9-10, PPFP will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley. Please join us for the Gala Dinner on October 9 to reflect on PPFP's achievements over the past 30 years. For more information, please visit: <http://ppfp.ucop.edu/info/fellowship-recipients/30th-anniversary-page.html>

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