

Search Committee for Dean of the Graduate College – 2009-2010

Biosketches

Michael A. Pagano is Dean of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago and Professor of Public Administration. He is an elected Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, co-editor of *Urban Affairs Review*, and Faculty Fellow of UIC's Great Cities Institute. He has authored four books and over 80 articles on urban finance, capital budgeting, federalism, transportation policy, infrastructure, urban development and fiscal policy, and delivered over one hundred papers and speeches. Pagano has received funding from, among others, the National Research Council, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Pew Charitable Trusts, Brookings Institution, and the Chicago Community Trust.

Suresh K. Aggarwal is Professor and Director of the Flow and Combustion Simulation Laboratory in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. He has served as the MIE Director of Graduate Studies and supervised the thesis research for more than 45 PhD and MS students. He has established an internationally recognized research program in combustion, multiphase flows, energy, emissions, and renewable fuels and is the author of over 280 archival and conference publications. He has been a member of numerous UIC committees, and NSF and Department of Energy review panels. Aggarwal served as Founding Editor of the *Journal of Combustion*, as Associate Editor of the *AIAA Journal*, and on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Green Energy*. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Barbara L. Dancy, Professor and Associate Dean for Nursing Science Studies in UIC's College of Nursing, teaches in the area of mental health nursing. She has expertise in psychopathology and psychiatric treatments, including individual, group, and family therapy. As the Director of a National Institute of Nursing Research T32 Training Grant, she is working to prepare nurses to assume the role of researchers in the area of reducing health disparities among underserved populations. Her research focuses on the development and testing of innovative, culturally sensitive, HIV-risk reduction programs for vulnerable, underserved populations. Dancy has multiple publications and presentations. Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Robert E. Gaensslen is a Professor and Director of the Forensic Science Program in the Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences in UIC's College of Pharmacy. He also serves as Director of Graduate Studies for Forensic Science. Before coming to UIC, he taught at the University of New Haven, was a Visiting Fellow at the National Institute of Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice, and at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. Gaensslen is a lifelong forensic science academic with primary interest in forensic biology, DNA analysis and latent fingerprints. He is an active member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and one-time editor of the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*. He has been the principal investigator on a number of research and training grants.

Sharon Haar is an architect and an Associate Professor in the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Architecture, where she teaches seminars, lectures, and studios focused on urban design, theory, and globalization. She is currently researching the topic of social entrepreneurial networks in architecture. Her forthcoming book is entitled *City as Campus: Urbanism and Higher Education* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010). Other recent publications include: *Schools for Cities: Urban Strategies* (NEA/Princeton Architectural Press, 2002). Haar is the recipient of grants from The Graham Foundation, The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, the Fannie Mae Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts and American Architecture Foundation. She received her Master of Architecture from Princeton University.

Zoe Hoepfner is a graduate student in the Department of Pharmacology in the College of Medicine. Since coming to UIC, she has been an active researcher studying novel mechanisms in the regulation of transcription of genes important in inflammatory function downstream of G protein coupled receptor activation. She has received her own research funding for her work, being named principal investigator on an American Heart Association predoctoral research fellowship award. Hoepfner has been actively involved in graduate student life on campus. She has worked with the Graduate Student Council for three years, serving as Vice-President and President for the past two. Because of her involvement with the GSC, she has been able to participate on many University administrative committees and boards, including the search committee for the Vice-Chancellor for Research and the tuition executive committee in 2009.

Pamela Anne Quiroz is a Professor of Educational Policy Studies and Sociology in the College of Education. She is the author of *Adoption in a Color-Blind Society* (Rowman and Littlefield, Perspectives on a Multiracial America series, 2007) and several scholarly articles on adoption, education, race, and identity. She has served on the editorial boards of *Sociology of Education*, *Race, Ethnicity and Education* and *Rationality and Society*. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the American Sociological Association, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. Quiroz is currently a Senior Scholar at the Spencer Foundation and former Fellow at Stanford's Center for the Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. She is the current Chair of the Educational Problems Division for the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Karina Reyes is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Her research is on the academic achievement and high school dropout rate among youth from minority and low-income backgrounds. In this context, she is particularly interested in resilient youth who succeed academically despite the challenges posed by their environment. Reyes' dedication to education and educational achievement have resulted in her recognition as an award-winning teacher at UIC. Last year she received the highest honor in this regard when she was awarded the designation of "Master Teacher," an honor given annually to professors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for their extraordinary creativity, innovation and effectiveness in the classroom.

David Ucker is a Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology in the College of Medicine. He has served as the Department's Director of Graduate Studies. As a faculty member involved in the graduate teaching concentration, he was course director for graduate education in medical sciences courses including Integrative Biology, Immunological Methods and Advanced Immunology. For over a decade, he has been a member of the Graduate College Executive Committee and the UIC Faculty Senate. Ucker's ongoing scientific research program, funded by NIH among other agencies, focuses on mechanisms of cell death and the consequences of cell death on immunity, and alterations in cell death or dead cell recognition with aging.

Annette Valenta is a Professor in the Department of Biomedical and Health Information Sciences, and Associate Dean for Health Informatics and Technology in the College of Applied Health Sciences. Recruited in 1991, she developed UIC's model curriculum in informatics: the first national federally funded graduate-level specialization in health informatics and information management. In 1997, with funding from the Sloan Foundation and UI-OnLine, she moved the face-to-face Certificate in Health Informatics to an online format. With funding through the Agency for Healthcare and Research Quality, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Defense, Valenta's academic research focuses on organizational issues surrounding health technology and its barriers to use. She is a Review Board Member of the *Journal of Biomedical Informatics*.