Approved by the Board of Trustees

May 22, 2025

**18**

Board Meeting  
May 22, 2025

APPOINT FACULTY FELLOWS TO THE INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, CHICAGO

**Action:** Appoint Faculty Fellows to the Institute for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Funding:** State appropriated funds

The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the recommendation of the director of the Institute for the Humanities and with the concurrence of the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, has recommended the following appointments of fellows to the Institute for the Humanities for the Academic Year 2025-2026, and for the programs of research or study indicated.[[1]](#footnote-1) Fellows are released from teaching and administrative duties, normally for one year, so that they can devote full effort to their research.[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Soledad Álvarez Velasco,** assistant professor, anthropology and Latin American & Latino Studies, “Inhabiting the Transit: Migrant Spatial Struggles from Global South America to the U.S.”

**Zachary Davis Cuyler,** assistant professor, history, “Fossil Lebanon: Oil and the Making of the Lebanese State”

**Kaitlin Forcier,** assistant professor, English, “The Infinite Aesthetic”

**Johari Jabir,** associate professor, Black studies, “No Ways Tired: The Life Legacy and Making of the King of Gospel, Rev. James Cleveland”

**Steven Marsh,** professor, Hispanic and Italian studies, “The Portuguese Revolution as Geo-filmic Event”

**Justin Quang Nguyen Phan,** assistant professor, global Asian studies, “Embodied Nonalignment: Vietnamese Diasporic Aesthetics and Cold War Mediations”

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning the University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

1. Faculty Fellows are chosen competitively by the Institute’s Executive Committee through evaluation of research proposals. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In the event of a cancellation from one of the named fellows, the following alternates have been named:

   Alternate 1: **Lilia Fernandez,** professor, history, “Chicago’s Forgotten Workers: Latino Industrial Labor in the Mid-Twentieth Century”

   Alternate 2: **Maria Eugenia López-Garcia,** assistant professor, museum and exhibition studies“A Dignified Gaze: The Visual Imaginaries of Domestic Work”

   Alternate 3: **Will Small,** associate professor, philosophy “Skill as Practical Knowledge”

   Alternate 4: **Claire Decoteau,** professor, sociology, “Reproductive Borderlands: Navigating the Fractured Reproductive Healthcare Landscape” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)