

## COMMITTEE ON FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURE Annual Report 2019-2020

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

The Committee on the Faculty Research Lecture (CFRL) enthusiastically nominates Jennifer González as the Faculty Research Lecturer for the 2020-2021 academic year. Professor González is Professor of History of Art and Visual Culture (HAVC) and Digital Art and New Media, and she currently serves as Faculty Co-Director of the Arts Division's Institute of Arts and Sciences. Notably, she is additionally an affiliated faculty member with a number of other departments in the humanities: Latin American and Latino Studies, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, Feminist Studies, and History of Consciousness. As these many affiliations show, Professor Gonzalez's research in art history and visual culture breaks walls and crosses borders. She illuminates the work of many of the most vibrant artists of contemporary America, including Christian Marclay, Jimmie Durham, James Luna, Amalia Mesa-Bains, Pepón Osorio, and Guillermo Gómez-Peña. She dissects performance art, installation work, digital art, and arts-activism, discussing representations in relation to race, gender, and history. In addition to recently giving special attention to Latinx practice, her research continues to address other expansive and diverse visualizations of embodiment, from artificial worlds to cyborgs.

Dr. González's scholarship forges bonds between exemplary practitioners and the academy, inspiring our students and ourselves to experience art as engaged social praxis. In catalogues, exhibitions, articles, chapters, books, conferences, special events, and lectures, she promotes our understanding of contemporary art visually and viscerally, highlighting how it operates in exhibition space, public space, and digital space. Professor González was selected by the CFRL for her high caliber research—which has earned her national and international recognition—and the exemplary model she upholds as a scholar-teacher-cultural worker. She was also selected because her work is timely and addresses some of our most pressing collective social challenges. She uncovers the social inequities of the past and prepares our future, interrogating the seismic shifts and needed recalibrations in 21st century American visual arts.

Professor González's publications provide a crucial roadmap to the vibrant and burgeoning Latinx arts in the US, placing this work in historical and transnational frames. Books include *Subject to Display: Reframing Race In Contemporary Installation Art* (MIT Press, 2008) and *Pepón Osorio* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013). Professor González recently served as editor-in-chief for *Chicana and Chicano Art: A Critical Anthology*, (Duke University Press 2019), named one of the "Best Art Books of the Decade" by *ArtNews* magazine. She has published articles and essays in numerous scholarly and art publications. She has presented lectures all over the country from the LA County Museum of Art and the Getty Foundation, to the Whitney Museum in NY, where she presents regularly in the Whitney Independent Study Program. Her work has been supported by the Ford Foundation, American Association of University Women, Whitney Museum for American Art, and American Council of Learned Societies, among other institutions.

At UCSC she has been a department chair, graduate commencement speaker, and won Excellence in Mentoring and Excellence in Teaching awards. She contributes to general education and mentors both undergraduate majors and graduate students from diverse programs toward their

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degrees. She teaches us the eye-opening art of seeing, and we look forward to what will surely be an exciting and broadly engaging presentation. We are proud to nominate Jennifer González as 2020-2021 Faculty Research Lecturer.

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMITTEE ON FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURE  
Kathy Foley, Theater Arts  
Lise Getoor, Computer Science and Engineering  
Barbara Rogoff, Psychology  
Ronaldo Wilson, Literature  
Seth Rubin, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Chair

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