

Inspiring Faculty Excellence



## EVERY CLASSROOM NEEDS A CHAIR

Educational philanthropy has benefited the lives and careers of many faculty members through generous gifts that finance chairs, research, salaries, and faculty positions.

“I’m proud to bear the title of the **William F. Aldinger Chair**,” says Linda Allen, professor of banking and finance at Baruch’s Zicklin School of Business. “It’s enabled me to travel to present my work in many different places...the financial support is greatly appreciated.”

The Chair was created in 2005 with a \$2 million donation by William F. Aldinger, III ('69, LHD [Hon.] '05), retired president & CEO of Capmark Financial Group Inc. Endowed Chairs recognize the most prominent faculty members while providing

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invaluable financial support for teaching and research. They also help Baruch to both attract and retain brilliant scholars.

Professor Allen is an expert on the role of financial institutions in the evolution of financial markets, risk and credit risk analysis. She explains, “My latest work is on systemic risk,” involving how to internalize the risks that certain financial institutions create on other institutions.



## Endowed Chairs and Supported Professorships

Lillie and Nathan Ackerman  
Visiting Professor of Equality  
and Justice in America

William F. Aldinger  
Chair in Banking and Finance

Marvin Antonowsky Fellow in Theatre

Bloomberg  
Chair in Business Journalism

Irwin and Arlene Ettinger  
Chair in Accountancy

Field Family Chair in Entrepreneurship

Lawrence N. Field  
Professorship in Entrepreneurship

Peter S. Jonas  
Professorship in Entrepreneurship

Willem Kooyker '71  
Dean of the Zicklin School of Business

David Krell Chair in Finance

Albert Lippert Chair in Marketing

Robert P. Luciano  
Chair in Health Care Policy

Eli and Claire Mason  
Professorship in Accountancy

William Newman  
Chair in Real Estate Finance

William Newman  
Directorship of Jewish Studies

Valentín Lizana y Parragué  
Chair in Latin American Studies

Stan Ross Professorship in Accountancy

Emanuel Saxe  
Distinguished Professor in Finance

Marvin M. Speiser Professor of Finance

Bert and Sandy Wasserman  
Professorship in Finance

Irving Weinstein  
Professorship in Accountancy

Lawrence and Carol Zicklin Chair in  
Corporate Integrity and Governance

**The Eugene M. Lang Junior Faculty Fellowship program**, established in 1998 and endowed in 2008, has provided grants to more than 100 of Baruch's junior faculty members over the past decade. The program provides junior faculty with the funds they need to conduct research and explore new areas of inquiry. At the same time it also enriches undergraduate education and offers crucial support to recruit and retain the best faculty members.

## WITH FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT, BOUNDARY-CROSSING RESEARCH

Assistant Professor Rachel A. Smith is a Baruch **Eugene M. Lang Junior Faculty Research Fellow**, thanks to a program established through a grant of the Eugene M. Lang Foundation.

Professor Smith teaches primarily in the MSEd program in higher education administration in the School of Public Affairs and has been at Baruch College for only a couple of years.

In that time, she has earned a reputation from her students as “very helpful and engaging” and it has been said that she “brings a touch that Higher Ed needs at Baruch.” This reputation is no surprise given that Professor Smith has dedicated her research to include the study of campus environments designed to facilitate student learning, the first-year experience, and students in transition.



This area of scholarship was integral to her being chosen as a Lang Fellow. According to Professor Smith, “the Lang-funded project looks specifically at the role that high school peer networks play in health and higher education outcomes for U.S. adolescents. The project extends my current research by looking not only at college environments but at high school environments, as we know that educational trajectories are established before college.”

Professor Smith notes that “one of the unique things about Baruch is that the higher education program is housed in the School of Public Affairs. Most of the time they’re housed in education schools.” For her, it is “being able to collaborate with people from different disciplines” that has made her time at Baruch College so exciting.

## KEEPING ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AFLOAT

**W**ith the deep blue sea as his laboratory, Biology and Environmental Studies Assistant Professor David Gruber is taking coral reef research to new heights — and Baruch students are reaping the rewards. Thanks to generous funding, Gruber has examined coral reef systems throughout the world, discovering ways to protect and preserve the endangered, delicate ecosystems while also developing applications for their use to cure human diseases.

**“Baruch donors’ interest in research and education, as expressed by their generous giving, has been a fundamental part of my mission to protect, explore, and educate students about ocean life,” says Gruber.**

The research and pilot studies that Gruber undertakes, often with his students, have resulted in grants from agencies such as the National Institutes of Health. Among other prestigious grants and awards bestowed upon him over the years are those from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the National Geographic Society, and the National Science Foundation, the latter whose funding is being used to build the first submersible designed to sustainably collect samples from deep inside coral reefs. With the Lang Fellowship, Gruber examined an environmental toxin to see if there was any relationship between it and autism.



His newest course for undergraduates focuses on tropical reefs and the various aspects of their ecosystems. An optional study abroad component is an eight-day field trip to the Cayman Islands, where students can snorkel or scuba dive to examine coral reefs up close. To help the students pay for the trip, Gruber organized fundraising events to attract individual and foundation donors.

In 2011 Gruber received the Feliks Gross Endowment Award from CUNY, given to an assistant professor for “outstanding research, or potential for such,” and in 2012 he co-curated a hugely popular interactive exhibit about fluorescent proteins at the city’s American Museum of Natural History.

**The Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation** has provided generous annual grants since 2002 to support research sabbaticals for Baruch’s junior tenure-track faculty members in the humanities who have been judged to be among the College’s most excellent teachers. Since the program began, over 25 faculty members have been awarded from one to two semesters of release from teaching to pursue their research and writing. This level of support for faculty is extraordinary, and the College appreciates both the Foundation’s recognition of Baruch faculty members’ excellent teaching and the very much needed support for their research.