



Contact: Patrice Bell-Mercadel (504) 520-5452
or Diana Hernandez (504) 520-5120

Committee Approves 11 Faculty Promotions at Xavier University of Louisiana

New Orleans LA – The University Rank and Tenure Committee has approved the promotions of 11 faculty members in five different disciplines at [Xavier University of Louisiana](http://www.xula.edu) (XULA), according to Dr. Anne McCall, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

Promoted to the rank of full professor in their respective disciplines were Dr. Thomas Wiese in pharmacy and Dr. Kun Zhang in chemistry, while those promoted to clinical professor in the College of Pharmacy were Dr. Amne Borghol and Dr. Kristi Rapp.

Six other faculty – Dr. Jeremy Cohen in psychology, Dr. Cecily DeFreece in biology, Dr. Anupo Kundu in biology, Dr. Sharlene Sinegal-Decuir in history, Dr. Jayalakshmi in chemistry, and Dr. Qian-Jin Zhang in biology – were all promoted to the rank of associate professor. Promoted to clinical associate professor in the College of Pharmacy was Dr. Christopher Gillard.

About Xavier University of Louisiana

Xavier was recently ranked as the nation's #2 HBCU (Historically Black College and University) by [College Consensus](http://CollegeConsensus.com), a unique college ratings website that aggregates publisher rankings and student reviews, in its newly released publication, *Best HBCUs for 2018*. Xavier was also among the four colleges selected by Beyonce and her *BeyGood Foundation* as the recipient of a Homecoming Scholars Scholarship Award announced after her much lauded performance at Coachella.

That's just the latest in national accolades Xavier has received as one of the best universities in the country. Most notably, XULA is ranked as the best value among southern regional colleges and universities in the 2018 edition of "Best Colleges" by the *U.S. News Media Group*. Xavier also ranked No.1 in its grouping, heading the list of only 15 schools that qualified for the Southern Region category listed under "Great Schools, Great Prices."

At Xavier *eXcellence awaits yoU*. For more information about Xavier University of Louisiana visit us online at www.xula.edu or follow us on Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter @XULA1925. Take a moment to learn more about how Xavier is preparing students for the future at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD4mb-jYZC8>. To book interviews about our recent accomplishments and/or to speak with our experts in the field of pharmacy, education, premed, public health, science, technology, math, business, English, communications and the arts, contact Diana Hernandez at (504) 520-5120 or dhernan1@xula.edu.

#