

For Immediate Release

Woodbury University School of Architecture's Annie Chu and Jeanine Centuori Named to AIA Fellowship Program

Reflecting Achievement of Excellence, Longtime Faculty Members Now Carry Professional Designation 'FAIA'



LOS ANGELES (Feb. 9, 2016) – Underscoring their "significant contribution to architecture and society," <u>Woodbury University</u>'s <u>School of Architecture</u> faculty Jeanine Centuori and Annie Chu have been elevated into the American Institute of Architects Fellowship program, the university announced today.

According to the AIA, "the AIA Fellowship program was developed to elevate those architects who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society and who have achieved a standard of excellence in the profession. Election to Fellowship not only recognizes the achievements of the architect as an individual, but also honors before the public and the profession a model architect who has made a significant contribution to architecture and society on a national level" http://www.aia.org/practicing/awards/AIAS075320. Both professors now carry the professional designation "FAIA."

Prof. Centuori is Director of the Architecture + Civic Engagement (ACE) Center and Associate Professor of Architecture at Woodbury. The ACE Center was recently re-branded to better reflect its expanded mission of providing every Woodbury student with the opportunity to learn while serving the needs of nonprofit and community groups. Prof. Centuori is principal and founder of UrbanRock Design, an art, architecture, and design studio. Her teaching, community work, and professional practice are committed to serving communities with the celebration of subtlety, connection to place, and altered perceptions. She has completed public art plazas, park features, gardens, integrated facades, transit stations, median islands, four-unit housing projects, single family houses, law office remodels, a museum remodel, furniture designs, art plans, and urban designs.

Interior Architecture Prof. Chu received the International Interior Design Association's Leadership Award of Excellence from IIDA's Southern California chapter in 2014. Her firm, Chu + Gooding Architects, is part of the primary design team that has been awarded the \$350 million Los Angeles Convention Center renovation project. Prof. Chu served as a Cultural Affairs Commissioner for the City of Los Angeles from 2010 to 2013, focusing on the re-launch of the Mayor's Design Advisory Panel and public art initiatives that elevate the quality of public art and the built environment within Los Angeles. Her recent design work includes exhibit design for the Studio Museum in Harlem and the Hammer Museum; the LA County + USC Wellness Center; La Plaza de Cultura y Artes, a Mexican cultural center in downtown Los Angeles; a new headquarters for Southern California Public Radio (KPCC 89.3) in Pasadena; and the Culver Center of the Arts at the UC Riverside ARTSblock in downtown Riverside, Calif.

"The AIA Fellowship program showcases the very best in our profession," said Norman Millar, AIA, Dean of the School of Architecture. "Jeanine and Annie have done exemplary work throughout their careers, and have consistently gone above and beyond, to make their mark on society as a whole. I join with the architecture community at Woodbury in extending our congratulations and deep appreciation to both."

Woodbury University School of Architecture is a network of hubs strategically sited within the Southern California megalopolis: Los Angeles, Burbank, Hollywood, and San Diego. Together, these sites form a critical infrastructure for architectural investigations. The school's undergraduate and graduate programs in architecture and interior architecture train students as entrepreneurs, architect citizens, and cultural builders. Explore the program at architecture.woodbury.edu.

The <u>School of Architecture</u>'s undergraduate program was ranked among the top 25 nationally, in the 2016 *DesignIntelligence* survey of the nation's Top 35 undergraduate architecture programs. Woodbury's Architecture program was recently accepted by the National Council of Architects Registration Boards (NCARB) as one of only fourteen schools in the country whose students will now have an opportunity to achieve architectural licensure upon graduation.

About Woodbury University

Founded in 1884, Woodbury University is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Southern California. With campuses in Burbank/Los Angeles and San Diego, the university offers bachelor's degrees from the School of Architecture, School of Business, School of Media, Culture &

Design, and College of Transdisciplinarity, along with a Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts in Media for Social Justice, Master of Architecture (MArch), Master of Interior Architecture (MIA), Master of Science in Architecture (MSArch), Master of Leadership, and Master of Arts in Media for Social Justice. The San Diego campus offers Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture, Master of Interior Architecture and Master of Landscape Architecture degrees, as well as an MSArch degree with a concentration in Real Estate Development and Landscape + Urbanism. Woodbury ranks 15th among the nation's "25 Colleges That Add the Most Value," according to *Money Magazine* and is a 2014-2015 College of Distinction. Visit woodbury.edu for more information.

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