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# Education professor wins national award for emerging scholarship

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**Assistant Professor of Reading and Literacy Studies  
AnnMarie Gunn, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Reading and Literacy Studies AnnMarie Gunn, Ph.D., in the College of Education has won the 2013 Dr. Carlos J. Vallejo Memorial Award for Emerging Scholarship.

The award is given annually by the American Educational Research Association to one scholar nationally who demonstrates a commitment to underserved communities and to producing scholarship that advances multicultural and multiethnic education.

Dr. Gunn, who earned her Ph.D. from USF, has redesigned literacy education graduate coursework at USF St. Petersburg to incorporate readings, activities and assignments within a multicultural framework. She also has collaborated with other researchers to investigate cultural autobiographies as a tool to promote cultural awareness in and published her findings through numerous publications and conference presentations.

She has received two university grants related to multicultural education and the Florida Holocaust Museum. One grant is directed toward development of multicultural children's literature resources for USFSP teacher education literacy coursework. The second focuses on investigating the impact of multicultural literacy coursework and civic engagement with the Florida Holocaust Museum.

"I am humbled to receive this award and honored to be a part of the larger academic community that situates multicultural education as an essential framework in teacher education," Dr. Gunn said. "As an Assistant Professor, I feel very supported by my colleagues, the college, university and the community which enables me to conduct the research in the spirit of this award."

Norine Noonan, Ph.D., vice chancellor of academic affairs, said the award is another example of the strong scholarship at USF St. Petersburg. "We are so pleased that Dr. Gunn's work has been recognized nationally with this prestigious award," she said.

Elizabeth Gelman, executive director of the Florida Holocaust Museum, said Dr. Gunn's students benefit from her commitment to multicultural education. "We applaud Dr. Gunn's use of multicultural resources to broaden her student's literary frame of reference as well engage them in the important civic issues of today," she said.

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