Dr. Junlei Li has been named to a new, three-year visiting professorship in early learning and children’s media at Saint Vincent College, according to Br. Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., president.

Li will serve as an associate professor of psychology in Saint Vincent College’s School of Social Sciences, Communication and Education, working with Saint Vincent faculty and the staff at the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children’s Media to draw a future generation of scholars to the legacy of Fred Rogers.

“I am very pleased to consider the role that Dr. Li can play in more deeply engaging our students in teaching, application and research at the Fred Rogers Center, which will help to expand the reach of Fred Rogers' work to a new generation,” Hipps said.

Li was formerly the principal research scientist at The Fred Rogers Company. He was also a senior fellow and past director of applied research and evaluation at the Office of Child Development at the University of Pittsburgh. His work integrates developmental science with training, media and communication development to improve children’s lives in schools, orphanages and community programs. He was previously a principal investigator at Carnegie Mellon University where he designed and led research and development projects, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, to narrow the science achievement gap in under-served urban schools.

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame where he earned a bachelor of science degree in computer science with highest honor, he earned a master of arts degree in instructional science and a Ph.D. in psychology at Carnegie Mellon University. Li was born and raised in China and emigrated to the U.S. with his family at the age of 16. He and his wife adopted two daughters from China. They maintain strong ties with China through both professional and humanitarian work on behalf of orphans with disabilities.
He is the author or co-author of journal papers, book chapters, op-ed commentary, policy papers, evaluation reports, conference presentations and invited symposiums. He has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in psychology and education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Education and the Carnegie Mellon University Department of Psychology.

Dr. Li's position at Saint Vincent is being funded by a generous grant from The Heinz Endowments.

---

For Information:
Don Orlando, Director, Public Relations
Saint Vincent College, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650-2690
Phone 724 805-2010, FAX 724 805-2019, pr@stvincent.edu, www.stvincent.edu